

He's not Cashing in

Joaquin Phoenix prefers hip-hop

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Obama signs \$787 billion stimulus package in Denver

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Kobe eyeing an NBA title in second half

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Lakers' Kobe Bryant



TOMOHIRO OHSUMI/AP

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, left, shakes hands with Japan Foreign Minister Hirofumi Nakasone prior to their meeting at the Iikura Guest House Tuesday in Tokyo.

Clinton signs Guam pact

Agreement details Japan's \$6.09 billion share of Marines' move

By DAVID ALLEN
Stars and Stripes

On her first trip to Asia since taking office, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton signed an agreement in Tokyo on Tuesday that puts teeth into a plan to move 8,000 Marines and their families from Okinawa to Guam.

The agreement, signed by Clinton and Japan Minister of Foreign Affairs Hirofumi Nakasone, spells out how the \$6.09 billion Japan has said it will contribute to the project will be spent. Specifically, Japan agreed to spend a total of \$2.8 billion for "projects to develop facilities and infrastructure on Guam."

The new agreement reinforces a bilateral agreement signed in May 2006 to realign U.S. troops in Japan. Key to the so-called "Realignment Roadmap" is the building of a new airfield on Camp Schwab to replace Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. But the plan has been stalled because of opposition by some Okinawa officials who want runways for the new facility to be built offshore.

"This agreement reflects the commitment we have to modernize our military posture in the Pacific," Clinton said at the signing. "It reinforces the core of our alliance — the mission to defend Japan against attack and to deter any attack by all necessary means."

Nakasone said the agreement "shows the strength of our alliance."

"We agreed to work toward the implementation of the 2006 pact in a manner that does not compromise readiness or capability," Nakasone said.

The cost of the realignment plan has raised some hackles in Japan, with officials eager to reassure the public that Japanese companies would profit and the money would not go to other projects.

The realignment would transfer the headquarters of the III Marine Expeditionary Force and some 8,000 Marines and their families to Guam. Japan and the U.S. have said they expect the move to be completed in 2014, although in recent weeks the commander of U.S. forces in the Pacific and a Guam senator have said it may take a decade or more.

"It reinforces the core of our alliance — the mission to defend Japan against attack and to deter any attack by all necessary means."

Hillary Rodham Clinton
U.S. Secretary of State

Clinton meets with families of those abducted in '70s, '80s by North Korea **Page 2**

About half of the U.S. troops in Japan are based on Okinawa, including 13,200 Marines. Once the new Marine airport is built, the U.S. has agreed to close several Marine bases in southern Okinawa.

In a statement issued Tuesday afternoon, Guam Gov. Felix Camacho said the agreement "reaffirms the commitment to relocate U.S. Marines to Guam and further expand the military into the Western Pacific."

"The finalization of this agreement confirms the need for our leaders to unite and ensure development will be sustained for years to come," Camacho said, according to a press release. "This administration will continue to work with the U.S. Department of Defense to make certain the buildup benefits all those who call Guam home."

The agreement was not as well received on Okinawa, where the prefectural assembly last year passed a resolution against the new airport.

They want the air facility to be located anywhere but Okinawa.

SEE CLINTON ON PAGE 2

QUOTE
OF THE DAY

"It's a way of putting a face on a statistic. Whatever sacrifices are made, there's always a human being behind the policy and that's an important thing for us all to remember."

—Kevin Bacon, on his reasons for being in an HBO film about transporting U.S. soldiers' remains

See story on Page 4

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Clinton warns
N. Korea on
missile test

By MATTHEW LEE
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton talked tough on her first overseas trip as America's top diplomat, delivering a sharp warning to North Korea on Tuesday over its threat to conduct a missile test.

As she wound down a long day of official events in Tokyo before preparing for the next leg of her Asia tour in Indonesia, Clinton said North Korea's threatened missile test would harm its prospects for improved relations with the United States and other neighbors.

"The possible missile launch that North Korea is talking about would be very unhelpful in moving our relationship forward," she said, adding that if Pyongyang wants to end its isolation, it would have to act on pledges made to previous Bush administration negotiators to scale back its nuclear weapons efforts.

"The decision as to whether North Korea will cooperate in the six-party talks, end provocative language and actions is up to them and we are watching very closely," Clinton said, referring to North Korea's continuing talks with the U.S. and four other major nations over efforts to nudge the North to abandon nuclear weapons.

Clinton's first day of talks with Japanese officials to reaffirm the U.S.-Japan alliance was overshadowed by North Korea's rhetoric. Japan, too, is concerned about North Korean intentions, and its diplomats, along with envoys from the U.S., China, Russia and South Korea, have been involved in the



TOMOHIRO OHSUM/AP

Japanese Foreign Minister Hirofumi Nakasone speaks as Secretary of State Hillary Clinton listens during their joint news conference in Tokyo on Tuesday.

six-nation talks that were to resume later this week in Moscow.

"If North Korea abides by the obligations it has already entered into and verifiably and completely eliminates its nuclear program, then there will be a reciprocal response certainly from the United States," Clinton said in Tokyo. "It is truly up to the North Koreans."

But on Monday, three days after Clinton first floated the incentives, North Korea used the 67th birthday of its leader Kim Jong Il to claim it has the right to "space development" — a term it has used in the past to disguise a long-range missile test as a satellite launch.

Secretary
meets with
families of
abducted

By ERIC TALMADGE
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Families of more than a dozen Japanese who were abducted by North Korea decades ago called on Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton Tuesday to push Pyongyang to divulge more information about the fate of their missing kin.

To show her support for their cause — a highly emotional issue in Japan — Clinton met briefly with representatives of the abductees' families at the U.S. Embassy. Clinton was in Tokyo on the first leg of a tour of Asia, her first overseas trip since assuming office.

North Korea has admitted to kidnapping 13 Japanese citizens in the 1970s and 80s, and has allowed five to return home, saying the other eight were dead. The abductees were apparently used to train North Korean agents in Japanese language and customs.

Japan says more were abducted, and has questioned the details that North Korea has provided so far.

Clinton said the abductee issue will continue to be part of broader negotiations that are also aimed at getting North Korea to give up its nuclear programs.

Clinton: Okinawans say realignment will 'add a further burden'

CLINTON, FROM PAGE 1

The six parties that make up the majority in the assembly sent a written request Monday to Nakasone urging him not to sign the agreement.

"The consensus of Okinawa is against construction of a new military facility on Okinawa," Yonekichi Shinzato, who leads the coalition, said before the signing. "The Japanese government, while fully aware of this, is about to sign the pact over the heads of Okinawan people."

Their demand was echoed by a group of 14 Okinawa scholars who issued a statement Monday that the realignment plan "would do nothing but add a further burden to Okinawa."

Seigen Miyazato, who leads the group of the scholars, said that Prime Minister Taro Aso's administration is in a hurry to sign the bilateral pact while Liberal Democratic Party and the Komeito party still control Japan's House of Representatives.

Okinawa Gov. Hirokazu Nakamine also had reservations and hoped the two govern-

ments would reconsider his request to move the airport offshore.

"We understand that the agreement was made to ensure the move of Marines from Okinawa to Guam, which will contribute to reduce the burden of Okinawa," he said. "From the standpoint of giving due consideration to the wish of local communities and natural environment, we continue to ask the governments to move the site farther offshore."

Stars and Stripes reporter Chiyomi Sumida contributed to this story.
E-mail David Allen at: allend@pstripes.osd.mil

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Bait and phish

Blue Team at Misawa cooks up online scams to test network security

By VINCE LITTLE
Stars and Stripes

Tech. Sgt. Thomas Parker and Senior Airman Jesse Sibley never miss a phishing trip.

At least once a month, the two airmen will cook up a good online scam and try to penetrate network security at Misawa Air Base in northern Japan. They've even managed to get a few bites along the way.

But there's nothing illegal going on here. They're part of the Blue Team, a Pacific Air Forces effort created last year to fend off e-mail scammers and hackers by playing the role and testing practices.

Parker, the noncommissioned officer in charge of information assurance for the 35th Fighter Wing and head of the two-man crew, said it's aimed at building stronger defense lines among base agencies and individuals.

"With the rise in these types of scams around the world, it just seemed natural to start educating our users here," he said. "Eventually, they're all going to see this and need to know how to handle it."

Parker said the program was launched at Misawa in June.

The Blue Team constructs cyber simulations — usually at random — that measure people's ability to spot scams and react accordingly. So far, Misawa has pushed six scenarios out to the base.

"The first time we did a phishing test it took two days before anyone called to notify us about a spam e-mail. In October, it took about 30 seconds from the time I hit 'Send' before we got a call."

Tech. Sgt. Thomas Parker
noncommissioned officer in charge of information assurance for the 35th Fighter Wing

"We only hit the military network and work e-mail accounts, nothing outside of that," Parker said. "But we're in charge of making sure folks are aware of the threats and how to counter those threats on a day-to-day basis. We train the base to look for common scams and vulnerabilities they may experience both on and off base, usually by e-mail."

He said up to 2,500 individuals can be tested for a general phishing scam. Misawa's largest "scam" built on spear phishing — a targeted e-mail attack sent only to people within a small group — involved about 500 personnel.

These messages might appear genuine but are often disguised as e-mails from banks or other companies trying to collect sensitive information such as user names, passwords and PINs.

"We tell people to beware of what's happening in the real world ... [and] look out for these indicators of a scam. But some users still give up their personal information," Parker said. "The good thing is our alert times have decreased. The first time we did a phishing test it took two days before anyone called to notify us about a spam e-mail. In October, it took about 30 seconds from the time I hit 'Send' before we got a call."

In December, the Blue Team took aim at more than a dozen workplaces around Misawa. Along with a third person, Parker



CHAD C. STROHMEYER/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

Senior Airman Jesse Sibley, of the 35th Communication Squadron's Blue Team, works on a squadron server earlier this month at Misawa Air Base, Japan. The Misawa Blue Team helps people recognize threats to the computer network infrastructure and properly report suspicious activity.

and Sibley posed as contractors who lacked credentials but tried to gain access to infrastructure and equipment, saying they needed to perform upgrades.

Parker said the team managed to get into the network at some locations.

"Folks need to know that if we have a contracted program out there, we'll send people from our squadron out there as escorts," he said. "We will not send anybody out there on a cold call. If there are no escorts, that would be an indicator they're not out there on a legitimate basis."

He said Misawa officials might consider temporarily locking the e-mail accounts of individuals who consistently test poorly in Blue Team scenarios — at least until they accomplish their annual network security training.

"That's under discussion," he said. "Right now, we're here to educate more than anything else and keep people from becoming complacent with their e-mail. We want to make them aware of where the scams are coming from and what they're asking for."

Misawa personnel who receive suspicious e-mail on a military network should call DSN 226-2001 or contact their unit information assurance officers.

E-mail Vince Little at: littlev@pstripes.osd.mil

Officials at Osan lift ban on 8 local bars

Owners promise to curb violence, prostitution and underage drinking

By FRANKLIN FISHER
Stars and Stripes

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea — Officials here have lifted a ban on eight local bars after the owners promised to keep them free of prostitution, underage drinking and other unsafe or illegal conditions, the Air Force said Tuesday.

Osan's 51st Fighter Wing commander Col. Thomas H. Deale lifted the ban Monday after the owners spelled out in writing the things they'd do to keep the bars free of crime and violence, said wing spokeswoman 1st Lt. Malinda C. Singleton.

"They said that they're really going to work to police themselves," she said.

The affected bars are the Stardust, Young Chon, Eagles and Golden Gate clubs, and the Chicago Club, Blood Club, Club Sting, and UN Club.

Deale had put the eight off-limits after Air Force police allegedly turned up evidence of "bar fining."

Bar fining is a practice in which a patron pays the club to allow a bar girl to leave the premises for an agreed-upon period. Authorities say bar fining is typically a symptom of prostitution.

In two letters sent to Osan's Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board, the owners promised "to ensure that their entertainment environment does not support illegal activities," Singleton said. Osan officials would not release copies of the letters to Stars and Stripes.

The owners said they'll move to avert bar fining, barroom violence and underage drinking, Singleton said.

In addition, she said, the owners will post signs in their clubs "letting U.S. personnel know that bar fining is not allowed."

Owners or their representatives had also held three meetings with the control board.

And they had help from Pyeongtaek city hall and the Korean National Police in finding a way to resolve the ban, Singleton said.

Based on those meetings and letters, the board recommended to Deale that he lift the ban, she said.

The disciplinary control board advises the wing commander on conditions at clubs or other off-base venues that can pose harm to U.S. servicemembers and their families, and the wing commander can put such places off limits.

Yi Sang-chul, manager at the Young Chon Club and a member of the Songtan Special Tourism Association, said club owners welcomed the news. The association represents bar and hotel owners in the Shinjang Mall area of Songtan, a section of Pyeongtaek in which Osan Air Base is located.

The off-limits ban had forced the Young Chon to close for three weeks starting Jan. 22, said Yi.

Yi Jin-yong, owner of the Golden Gate, said he lost weeks of business because of the ban, but still had to pay rent on the property.

"Now we can work ... off-limits finish," he said. "That's good."

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Airman jailed for stealing donated money

Stars and Stripes

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea — An Air Force sergeant who pleaded guilty to stealing money from a safe was sentenced Tuesday to 90 days in jail and loss of rank, officials said.

Tech. Sgt. Eva Zimmerman was reduced in rank to airman first class following a court-martial before military judge Col. Mark Allred.

The money was in an envelope and con-

tained between \$4,000 and \$6,000 that had been donated for a U.S. 7th Air Force (Air Forces Korea) banquet.

Zimmerman spent it for her "personal use," officials said.

Zimmerman, sergeant-in-charge of executive support services with 7th Air Force's 607th Support Group, had been charged with larceny that occurred sometime between Sept. 15 and Nov. 20, officials said.

"Officials went to look for the money

and to account for it and found out it was missing, and that is when the investigation started" that led to Zimmerman's court-martial, said 1st Lt. Naomi C. Evangelista, an Osan spokeswoman.

Zimmerman had opted to be tried by judge alone rather than a jury.

She was to be taken Tuesday to the 8th U.S. Army Confinement Facility at Camp Humphreys to begin serving her sentence.

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Early vote on Manas closure

BY LEILA SARALAYEVA
The Associated Press

BISHKEK, Kyrgyzstan — Kyrgyzstan's parliament said Tuesday it will vote this week on a bill to close a U.S. air base that provides key support to military operations in Afghanistan, as the top U.S. commander for the region visited Uzbekistan in search of new supply routes for forces fighting the Taliban.

President Barack Obama's call for an increased military focus on Afghanistan could be hampered both by the potential closure of the Manas Air Base in Kyrgyzstan and increased attacks on the main land route for supplies through Pakistan.

Kyrgyzstan parliament to decide this week on bill

Kyrgyz President Kurmanbek Bakiyev unexpectedly called this month for the closure of the Manas base, a transit point for 15,000 troops and 500 tons of cargo each month to and from Afghanistan. It also is a base for military refueling planes.

The decision is expected to easily pass parliament, which is dominated by the president's party.

A vote had not been expected until March, which would have given Washington more time to try to change Bakiyev's mind. But the parliamentary Foreign

Affairs Committee on Tuesday approved the order and set a Thursday vote for the lower house.

"The committee has endorsed the bill and will present the resolution to parliament this coming Thursday," said committee chairman Erik Arsaliyev.

If the bill is approved, the United States would have to leave the base within 180 days.

Meanwhile, Gen. David Petraeus was in Uzbekistan to meet with President Islam Karimov to discuss moving the base, the U.S. Embassy said without pro-

viding details.

The United States has secured permission from Russia and Kazakhstan to send nonlethal supplies for Afghanistan by rail, but neither of those countries border Afghanistan and the supplies would have to also transit through Uzbekistan.

U.S.-Uzbekistan relations have been tense in recent years amid U.S. criticism of Karimov's harsh rule. Uzbekistan evicted U.S. troops from a base in 2005, but this year allowed forces from NATO countries to use the facility.

Girl found dead, another hurt at Army barracks

The Associated Press

FORT LEWIS, Wash. — A 16-year-old girl was found dead and another teenage girl was discovered unconscious in a barracks on this Army base south of Tacoma, the Army said Monday.

In a statement issued about 36 hours after base emergency personnel responded to a 911

call early Sunday morning, Fort Lewis spokesman Joe Piek said a Madigan Army Medical Center doctor declared one girl dead at the scene. The second teen was taken to Madigan for emergency medical care and was reported in stable condition Monday.

There were no outward signs of physical trauma on either girl, Piek told The Associated Press

in a telephone interview Monday night. He said Army doctors at Madigan were performing an autopsy on the dead girl, but results might not be available for at least a week.

The Army is investigating what the girls were doing in the barracks and whether drugs or alcohol were involved, he said. The presence of the two civilian

girls "in the barracks at 3:30 a.m. is likely a violation of any of the units' barracks visitation policies," he said.

Civilians entering and leaving the base are supposed to be carefully tracked.

The Fort Lewis Criminal Investigation Division was investigating.

HBO film relying on 'Chance' to tell one Marine's story

BY LAURA L. HUTCHISON
The (Fredericksburg, Va.)
Free Lance-Star

FREDERICKSBURG, Va. — Lt. Col. Michael Strobl never met Chance Phelps.

But he has ensured that the world will not forget the 19-year-old Marine lance corporal who died on Good Friday, April 9, 2004, in Ramadi, Iraq, when his unit was ambushed. He'd been in Iraq two months.

Strobl, of Stafford County, volunteered to escort the body of the young Marine home to Dubois, Wyo., and wrote about his experience.

His journal has become an HBO movie, "Taking Chance," which debuted last month at the Sundance Film Festival. Its Virginia premiere was Tuesday at Marine Corps Base Quantico, where Strobl was stationed when he volunteered for the duty.

The film details the handling and transport of remains, from an air base in Germany, to Dover, Del., and eventually the return to the family.

What struck Strobl, and what is seen time and again in the film, is the rever-

ence with which the slain Marine was treated — not just by the military, but by cargo handlers at airports, strangers driving down the road, Boy Scouts in Phelps' hometown.

"What ultimately struck me, to the point that I was moved to write the story in the first place, is the decency of every American," Strobl said. "That's what I experienced on the trip, and I wanted to personally remember that."

"I hope that when other military families see the movie, they'll be reminded how much goodness there is out there and how much people really care."

Director Ross Katz knew he wanted Kevin Bacon to play Strobl. "He has gravitas as an actor," Katz said. "He works in shades of gray and nuance very beautifully. He can say so much, even when Lt. Col. Strobl and I, in many cases, gave him very little dialogue. I can't imagine this movie

without him."

Bacon said he knew nothing of escort duty prior to reading "Taking Chance."

"I just found the script extremely compelling, and I felt like it was a story that I hadn't seen before," Bacon said in a telephone interview. "It's a way of putting a face on a statistic. Whatever sacrifices are made, there's always a human being behind the policy and that's an important thing for us all to remember."



JAMES BRIDGES, HBO/AP

Meningitis blamed in deaths of 2 GIs in Mo.

BY JIM SALTER
The Associated Press

Officials say two soldiers stationed at Missouri's Fort Leonard Wood Army base have died of meningitis.

Fort Leonard Wood officials say Pvt. Randy Stabnick, 28, of South Bend, Ind., died Tuesday at a hospital in Springfield.

Another soldier from the base died Feb. 9. His name has not been released.

Fort Leonard Wood officials announced the cases in a news release Sunday but released few details. A media spokesman at the base on Monday said there was no additional information other than what was in the release.

Meningitis, an infection of the fluid of the spinal cord and the fluid that surrounds the brain, kills about 300 people in the U.S. each year.

Both cases at Fort Leonard Wood involved noncontagious forms of meningitis, authorities said.

The two soldiers were members of the same unit, but no connection has been found between the cases.

"Although difficult to comprehend, all clinical data show these cases are unrelated and purely coincidental," Lt. Col. John Lowery, deputy commander for clinical services at Fort Leonard Wood, said in a statement.

The first soldier died after being diagnosed on Feb. 5. The second soldier is a 28-year-old in basic training who was diagnosed Friday with a strep pneumonia infection leading to meningitis.

Authorities say that even though the illnesses were non-contagious forms, they are "heightening awareness" of preventive measures.

Soldiers are being reminded to wash their hands, avoid sharing utensils and to use proper cough etiquette and personal hygiene.

Bacterial meningitis can result in brain damage, hearing loss, learning disability or death.



MARK MAINZ/AP

Above: From left, actor Kevin Bacon, writer Michael Strobl and "Taking Chance" director Ross Katz pose at the Sundance Film Festival in Park City, Utah, on Jan. 18. Left: Bacon portrays Lt. Col. Michael Strobl in a scene from "Taking Chance."

Strobl, who co-wrote the script and spent four days on set, said he has been surprised to hear the film described as an "Iraq story." He said the story "isn't about Iraq. It's about America."

"I think the story is timeless. In my mind, it makes no difference that Chance happened to have been killed in Iraq. This story isn't about Iraq."

Obama OKs 17,000 troops to Afghanistan

By JEFF SCHOGOL
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — President Barack Obama has approved sending 12,000 combat troops and 5,000 supporting troops to Afghanistan beginning this spring, officials said.

The combat units are the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade, based out of Camp Lejeune, N.C., and the 5th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, based at Fort Lewis, Wash., the Defense Department announced Tuesday.

"Approximately 5,000 additional troops to support these combat forces will receive deployment orders at a later date," a DOD news release said.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates recent-

ly told Congress that a third unit could be in Afghanistan by the end of the summer.

Gen. David McKiernan, commander of U.S. troops in Afghanistan, has requested four additional brigade combat teams' worth of troops and an extra combat aviation brigade.

"General McKiernan's request for these troops is months old, and the fact that we are going to responsibly draw down our forces in Iraq allows us the flexibility to increase our presence in Afghanistan," Obama said in a statement released Tuesday afternoon.

No information on troop reductions in Iraq was available Tuesday, according to the White House.

The Marine Corps will send 8,000 Marines in the spring and another 2,000 in

the summer to replace the 2,200 already in Afghanistan, a Corps spokesman said Tuesday.

Corps Commandant Gen. James Conway has long advocated shifting Marine combat power from Iraq to Afghanistan.

Conway also has said that any increase in the Marines' presence in Afghanistan would have to correspond with a decrease in Iraq.

The 4,000 soldiers with the 5th Stryker Brigade Combat Team are expected to arrive in Afghanistan in the middle of the summer, the news release said.

Gates recently told Congress that a third unit could be in Afghanistan by the end of the summer.

The 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division is already on the ground

after being diverted from Iraq to Afghanistan, and the 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade is expected to arrive in Afghanistan in the spring.

The extra troops are needed to combat a "deteriorating situation in Afghanistan," where the Taliban are resurgent and al-Qaida is able to operate from safe havens in Pakistan, Obama said in Tuesday's statement.

"There is no more solemn duty as president than the decision to deploy our armed forces into harm's way," he said in the statement. "I do it today mindful that the situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan demands urgent attention and swift action."

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Elected women fight for respect in Iraq

By HADEEL AL-SHALCHI
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Women candidates are expected to fill many of the seats on provincial governing councils when results of last month's nationwide elections are certified later this week. But winning public acceptance in this male-dominated society is another matter.

Iraqi law requires that about 25 percent of the 444 seats on the 14 new provincial councils go to women — even if it means giving a position to female candidates who didn't win as many votes as some men in the Jan. 31 balloting.

The quota, which already gave women 75 seats in the national parliament, was established under U.S. pressure to open the door to political representation by women and encourage a new generation of Iraqis from all sectors of society. But female candidates say they experienced wide rejection.

Sabah al-Tememy, 35, is one of about 3,900 women who were among the more than 14,400 can-



HADI MIZBAN/AP

Inaam Hamid, a candidate for provincial council, is seen at her office in Baghdad on Thursday. Hamid is one of about 3,900 women in a field of more than 14,400 candidates.

didates who ran for the 444 seats on councils in all but four of Iraq's 18 provinces.

She drew some notoriety by plastering buildings and the blast walls lining Baghdad's streets with campaign posters showing her face — and showing it without her hair covered.

"I refused to trick people," al-Tememy told The Associated Press recently. "I don't wear a head scarf in my daily life, so why should I pretend for votes?"

But even her family objected to the posters, she said.

Iraq's constitution provides that men and women have basic legal rights such as voting, owning property and suing in court. But deep differences exist on the role of women in society.

Inaam Hamid, a former political prisoner, campaigned for a spot on the Baghdad provincial council wearing a traditional black robe, known as an abaya, but said even that drew objections.

"If you're covered or not, you can't win," said Hamid. "I heard: 'Don't you have shame — wearing the abaya and still putting your face on a poster?'"

Even women in government posts have complaints.

Nawal al-Samarraie, Iraq's minister for women's affairs, recently quit her post to protest a lack of resources for the agency, which focuses on offering help to women who lost husbands or other male relatives to violence or detention since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion.

Iraqi oil minister: 'Of course' OPEC considering cutbacks

The Associated Press

DOHA, Qatar — Iraq's oil minister said Tuesday that OPEC is "of course" weighing fresh output cuts to prop up prices, and underscored his government's expectation that contractors start work quickly or risk losing lucrative oil deals.

In explaining the need for potential new OPEC cutbacks, Husain al-Shahrastani said current crude prices don't provide "sufficient incentives" for investors to put money into new projects. That, he warned, could set the stage for a shortfall in production capacity once the global economy recovers.

The 12-nation Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is due to meet at its headquarters in Vienna, Austria, on March 15. Some of its members, including Iraq, have been forced to shrink their budgets or run deficits because of the steep drop in oil prices.

Al-Shahrastani said OPEC is in talks with "producers, companies and organizations" to determine how to raise prices to levels that would support investment in new fields.

The group, which produces about 40 percent of the world's oil, said last week it has completed about 80 percent of those previously agreed cutbacks.

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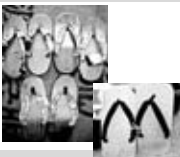
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U.N. says militants killed more Afghans in '08

By JASON STRAZIUSO
The Associated Press

KABUL — The number of Afghan civilians killed in armed conflict surged to a record 2,118 people last year as the Afghan war turned increasingly bloody, the U.N. said in a new report Tuesday.

Insurgents were responsible for 55 percent of the deaths, but U.S., NATO and Afghan forces killed 39 percent, the report said. Of those 829 deaths by the forces, 552 were blamed on

airstrikes.

Civilian deaths have been a huge source of friction between the U.S. and President Hamid Karzai, who says such deaths undermine his government and the international mission.

The deaths rose 40 percent last year, and the numbers could grow as the United States plans to shift tens of thousands of soldiers to Afghanistan this year to take on the Taliban and other militants.

Close to 3,000 American forces

who recently arrived to secure two violent provinces near Kabul have begun operations and their commander admitted that civilian casualties could increase because of their presence.

The Pentagon is contemplating sending up to 30,000 additional troops this year, a development that could also increase civilian casualties.

The U.S. and Afghan militaries this month announced plans to increase the number of Afghans who will take part in U.S. opera-

tions, a step aimed at reducing deaths of ordinary Afghans.

Despite new battlefield rules meant to reduce civilian casualties, U.S., NATO and Afghan troops killed 31 percent more civilians in 2008 than the year before, the U.N.'s annual report on the protection of civilians said. In 2007, the U.N. said those forces killed 629 civilians.

"As the conflict has intensified, it is taking an increasingly heavy toll on civilians," the U.N. said.

The report said militants were responsible for 55 percent of civilian deaths last year, or 1,160.

Militants increasingly rely on roadside bombs, car bombs and suicide bombers, attacks that are "frequently undertaken regardless of the impact on civilians," the report said.

The war is increasingly dangerous for aid workers as well. The U.N. said 38 were killed last year — double the number slain in 2007 figure — and 147 were abducted.

Trial begins for GI accused in deaths of Iraqi prisoners

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

VILSECK, Germany — A jury of senior officers and enlisted soldiers from U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwöhr was impaneled during the first day in the trial of a soldier accused of killing four Iraqi prisoners in March or April 2007.

Sgt. Michael Leahy Jr., 26, of Lockport, Ill., appeared at a court-martial in Vilseck on Tuesday, charged with premeditated murder, conspiracy to commit premeditated murder and obstruction of justice. He also faces

charges, including murder, for a separate incident in which a detainee was allegedly killed in January 2007.

Leahy is one of three soldiers charged with murder following the March or April 2007 incident in which four Iraqi prisoners were allegedly shot and dumped in a Baghdad canal by members of the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade — now part of the Grafenwöhr-based 172nd Infantry Brigade.

Several members of the unit have been convicted of lesser offenses while others await trial.

Two other alleged shooters — Sgt. Joseph Mayo, 27, and Sgt. John Hatley, 40 — face charges of premeditated murder, conspiracy to commit premeditated murder and obstruction of justice.

Lawyers filed a pretrial motion last month to suppress a confession that Leahy made to investigators but the motion was denied.

Leahy's trial began with a motion by his lawyers to exclude testimony from Staff Sgt. Jess Cunningham, 27.

Cunningham, who was nearby when the detainees were killed, told an Army lawyer about the

incident in January last year. Last week, the Army dropped a charge against Cunningham of conspiracy to commit premeditated murder.

Leahy's lawyers, who interviewed Cunningham for the first time on Monday, argued that they had not had sufficient access to the witness and that his evidence should not be heard by the court.

However, judge Col. Timothy Grammel said Cunningham could testify. The defense did not have an automatic right to interview a witness prior to trial, he said.

Leahy's lawyers persuaded

Grammel to excuse one of the potential panelists, Col. John RisCassi, after the former 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment commander told the court that he had read news reports about the case and may have discussed them with others.

Two other potential panel members were excused at the request of the prosecution and defense, each of whom had the automatic right to excuse one juror, leaving nine panelists to decide the case.

The trial continues Wednesday.

E-mail Seth Robson at: robsons@estripes.osd.mil



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IN THE WORLD

Japan finance chief quits over alleged drunkenness

By TOMOKO A. HOSAKA
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan's finance minister resigned Tuesday after slurring his speech and nodding off during the G-7 summit in Rome last weekend, another political distraction for the world's No. 2 economy battling a deepening recession.

Finance Minister Shoichi Nakagawa denied he was drunk on the job and blamed his bizarre behavior on cold medicine and jet lag.

Opposition lawmakers lodged a censure motion against Nakagawa after he returned to Tokyo and demanded he quit immediately.

"He embarrassed himself in front of the world," said opposition leader Ichiro Ozawa.

"Shocking" was how fellow Cabinet member Seiko Noda described the incident.

"A Cabinet minister must be fit, and he needs more self control," said Noda, Japan's minister in charge of consumer affairs.

In a recent poll, support ratings for Japan's Prime Minister Taro Aso fell into the single digits. Video footage of his Rome

press conference showed Nakagawa, 55, confused, drowsy and stumbling over words.

"I decided that it would be better for the country if I quit," said Nakagawa, one of Aso's closest political allies.

"The scandal was so humiliating that Nakagawa's resignation will not be enough," said political analyst Minoru Morita. "The opposition will now shift their target to Aso, pushing him deeper into the corner."

Economy Minister Kaoru Yosano, 70, will add Nakagawa's duties to his role, Aso said after accepting his resignation.

"He made a difficult choice, and I respect his decision," said the prime minister.

On Monday, Japan announced its economy shrank at its fastest rate in 35 years in the fourth quarter. It has now contracted for three straight quarters and is almost certainly headed for a fourth.

To revive growth, Japan's parliament passed a contentious \$52.2 billion extra budget in January that includes business tax credits and a cash payout of \$133 per Japanese taxpayer. Aso has



KATSUMI KASAHARA/AP

Finance Minister Shoichi Nakagawa raises a hand before answering questions Tuesday at a budget committee of the House of Representatives.

championed the idea, saying it will stimulate sagging consumer spending.

But critics have panned the handouts as a lavish waste of public money with limited impact.

Daredevil climbs buildings, goes green



KIN CHEUNG/AP

Alain Robert, a French urban climber who calls himself "Spider-Man," scales a 73-story Hong Kong skyscraper Tuesday, his latest attempt to draw attention to global warming by climbing up the world's tallest buildings. Robert has scaled dozens of tall structures without ropes or harnesses, including the Eiffel Tower in Paris, the Empire State Building in New York and Malaysia's Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur. It took Robert about 40 minutes Tuesday to climb the 886-foot Cheung Kong Center.

Senator offers aid on Cyprus

NICOSIA, Cyprus — A U.S. senator made an unofficial offer Tuesday to help the leaders of Cyprus' rival communities in peace talks to reunify the divided island.

Sen. Richard Durbin said he has offered assistance to President Dimitris Christofias, a Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat. He did elaborate.

"We don't have a specific offer. I mean, what we said was we're available to help. And again, it is for both sides to decide what that help might be," the Illinois Democrat told The Associated Press after talks with Christofias.

Durbin, who will travel on to Greece and Turkey this week, said his three-day Cyprus visit is not as an official representative of President Barack Obama.

2 accused of promoting jihad

MADRID — Police say they have arrested a Spanish soldier and his girlfriend for making and distributing videos promoting Islamic jihad, or holy war, and calling for attacks in Spain.

A police statement said the couple detained Tuesday in the southern city of Granada have placed at least 11 videos on the Internet. The clips have been viewed some 2,000 times.

The statement identifies the man as Christian Peso Ruiz Coello and his Russian girlfriend as

Maria Choubina. Both are 24. The statement said both are Muslims.

Austrian cops probed in spying

VIENNA — Law enforcement officials say two Austrian police officers are being investigated for allegedly passing restricted information about a former Kazakh ambassador to Kazakh authorities.

The two are believed to have sent restricted police information on Rakhat Aliyev, a former Kazakh deputy foreign minister, the officials said Tuesday.

Aliyev was dismissed as ambassador to Austria last year after he accused Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev of practicing Soviet-style totalitarianism. Aliyev said would run for president in 2012.

1 hurt in 2 grenade attacks

BEIRUT — Lebanese police say one person was hurt when two hand grenades exploded in two neighborhoods of Beirut overnight in renewed tensions sparked by the weekend death of a demonstrator.

Police say unknown attackers hurled a grenade on a road underpass in the Shiite-populated south Beirut suburb of Tayyouneh early Tuesday. Another grenade exploded near a cafe in the south Beirut suburb of Jnah, injuring one.

From The Associated Press

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Fridays from 2030 to 0030 in Cove Bar

Party away with MWR's house band on Fridays

Club Takemiya 246-8077

Open Mic Karaoke Night

Thursdays from 1900 to 2300

Asian Night

Mondays from 1700 to 2100

BBQ Spare Ribs

Tuesdays from 1700 to 2100

Cajun Chicken BBQ

Fridays from 1700 to 2100

Club Alliance 243-3000

Pizza of the Month: Shrimp and Crab Pizza

Daily in February

Enjoy this deliciously different pizza featuring two tasty catches on one pie for a limited time only. Small \$4.95 Medium \$12.95 Large \$19.95.

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This dark red English ale is the strongest we make. Enjoy by the glass, pitcher or keg. Call Brew Master Steve at 243-4236/3000 for details.

Sharky's Billiards Tournament

Sundays starting at 1900

\$50, \$40 and \$25 prizes to the top three. Sign ups are at 1900 and games begin at 2000. Minimum of eight participants needed

9-Ball Tournament

Mondays at 1900 in Panther Sports Bar on the 3rd deck

Prizes awarded to the first, second and third place winners.

Dart Tournament

Tuesdays at 1900 in Panther Sports Bar on the 3rd deck

Prizes awarded to the first, second and third place winners.

8-Ball Tournament

Wednesdays at 1900

in Panther Sports Bar on the 3rd deck

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Sundays from 0900 to 1400

An array of breakfast foods and lunch items, large salad bar and assorted dessert bar. Omelets to order and coffee, tea and juice bar.

Steak Night for Two

Tuesdays Nights 1700 to 2000

Dinner for two with all the trimmings, coffee and iced tea. Only \$19.95

Mexican Platter

Fridays from 1700 to 2000

Dinner served with Spanish soup, taco salad, fajitas, burritos, enchiladas, Spanish rice, refried beans, vegetable of the day and flour tortillas.

Prime Rib Dinner

Saturdays from 1700 to 2000

Eight ounces of pure beef rib eye served with salad, baked potato, vegetable of the day, coffee or tea.

Officers' Club 243-5030

Japanese Shogun Buffet

Thursdays from 1700 to 2100

Enjoy all the authentic favorites and we are talking more than just sushi. Come in and join us every Thursday night as we feature weekly alternating stations to wet your appetite and satisfy your curiosity with sushi, yakatori, tempura, shabu-shabu and much more. Prices are \$15.95 for adults, \$8.95 for children ages 8 to 11 and \$5.95 for kids ages 4 thru 7. Kids may also order from the kid's menu.

Sunday Brunch Extravaganza

Sundays from 0900 to 1330

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Mongolian BBQ

Tuesdays from 1700 to 2100 in Kosano Dining Room

Make your own Mongolian BBQ for only 65¢ per ounce. Plus, get it free when you guess the correct weight (5¢ over or less the price) of your Mongolian bowl. Now open to all hands.

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Saturdays from 1000 to 2100 in Kosano Dining Room

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Wednesdays and Fridays from 1630 to 1830

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Karaoke and Ladies' Night Out

Thursdays from 1500 to 2300

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IN THE STATES

Obama signs economic stimulus into law

The Associated Press

DENVER — President Barack Obama signed into law Tuesday one of the most costly pieces of legislation in U.S. history — a \$787 billion program to breathe life into the country's failing economy.

Speaking in Denver, the city where he won the Democratic presidential nomination last August, Obama said the massive government spending and tax cut program opened the road for Americans to begin "laying claim to a destiny of our own making."

The president put his signature to the bill in a highly unusual ceremony away

from the partisan tensions still gripping Washington. As he spoke in Denver, he was closing out his first month in office — opening days of a new administration that have seen a relentless storm of economic bad news and public pessimism.

After his legislative victory with the \$787 billion stimulus measure, Obama promised to take equally vigorous steps to prop up the country's deeply troubled financial system, ease the pain of Americans facing home mortgage foreclosures and save the teetering auto industry.

Automakers General Motors Corp. and

Chrysler, now kept afloat on a combined \$13.4 billion in federal emergency loans, were to report later Tuesday on their plans for reorganizing toward long-term survival.

Obama spokesman Robert Gibbs told reporters traveling with the president on board Air Force One to the Colorado capital that he would not rule out bankruptcy for Detroit automakers and that the administration looked forward to reviewing the companies' restructuring plans.

Gibbs also said the administration was keeping an open mind about a second stimulus effort. He stressed, however, that

there were no plans currently in the works for one.

In remarks before signing the bill, Obama cautioned Americans not to expect a quick or dramatic economic turnaround and said government intervention was not at an end.

"Today does not mark the end of our economic troubles. Nor does it constitute all of what we must do to turn our economy around. But it does mark the beginning of the end." The stimulus "doesn't constitute all we're going to have to do to turn our economy around," Obama said.



AP

General Motors workers file out of the GM Assembly Plant in Arlington, Texas, on Dec. 12. GM on Tuesday said it could need up to \$30 billion from the Treasury Department to keep operating, even as it reached a tentative agreement to modify its union contracts.

GM, Chrysler seek more U.S. aid, plan job cuts

The Associated Press

DETROIT — The U.S. auto industry needs even more help from the government to survive than originally thought.

General Motors on Tuesday said it could need up to \$30 billion from the Treasury Department to keep operating. Included in that amount is \$13.4 billion the company has already received. Previously, GM had said it could need as much as \$18 billion.

General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC said Tuesday they'll need billions more in government loans than they predicted just two months ago. The two automakers also plan further job cuts and additional curtailment of auto production.

Both companies plan to reduce

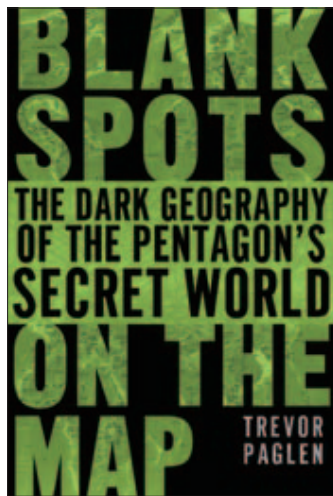
the number of models they offer to car buyers over the next few years.

Meanwhile, the United Auto Workers union said it has reached a tentative agreement with Chrysler, GM and Ford Motor Co. on modifications to existing labor contracts.

Acknowledging that industry conditions are worse than expected when it made the case in December for a government bailout, GM said it could run out of money by March without new funds from the government.

GM's survival plan also calls for the cutting of a total of 47,000 jobs and the closing of five more U.S. factories. Chrysler said it will cut 3,000 more jobs and stop producing three vehicle models.

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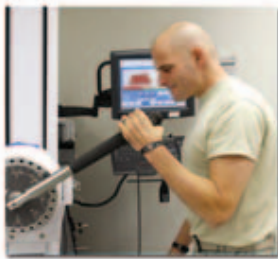
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STARS AND STRIPES

COMING HOME



Doctors accused of phony HIV billing

MIAMI — Authorities have arrested three Miami-Dade doctors who are accused of submitting millions of dollars in false claims for unnecessary HIV therapy.

Physicians Carmen Lourdes del Cueto, Roberto Rodriguez and Carlos Garrido are in custody at the Federal Detention Center in Miami on conspiracy charges of submitting \$10 million in phony bills for HIV drug-infusion services that patients didn't need or receive, according to a grand jury indictment.

The Miami Herald said the indictment said the three also were charged with laundering about \$5 million in payments made by the federal health insurance program over four years.

Authorities say teen brutalized, held captive

SPRING HILL, Fla. — For three years, neighbors in a quaint, middle-class community scarcely saw the lanky 16-year-old boy who lived with his adoptive mother and her boyfriend.

Now, they know why: According to authorities, the teen was brutally abused and held captive in his own home. Most recently, he'd been confined to a bathroom, locked from the outside and sealed with a piece of plywood over the window.

By the time he escaped last week, the Florida boy had a broken forearm and scars, scabs and oozing wounds that investigators say mark years of abuse.

Hernando County Sheriff Richard Nugent called it "barbaric."

Burris now admits he tried to raise money

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — Sen. Roland Burris now acknowledges attempting to raise money for ousted Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich — an explosive twist in the story of how he landed his Senate appointment from the man accused of trying to sell President Barack Obama's open seat.

Burris made the admission to reporters on Monday, after releasing a sworn statement over the weekend saying he had more contact with Blagojevich aides about the Senate seat than he had described under oath to a panel that recommended Blagojevich's impeachment.

The Democrat also said in the statement, but not before the panel, that the governor's brother asked him for fundraising help.

N.M. governor may OK repeal of death penalty

SANTA FE, N.M. — New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson said Monday he has softened his stance on the death penalty and may sign a repeal bill if it reaches his desk.

The Legislature is considering a measure that would abolish capital punishment and replace it with a sentence of life without the possibility of parole.

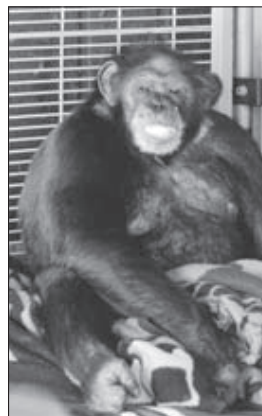
Richardson said he would have vetoed such a bill just a few years ago.

"Right now, I'd say it's probably a 50-50 proposition," the second-term governor said.

From The Associated Press



Travis is coaxed into a waiting sport utility vehicle in downtown Stamford in 2003.



Travis, a chimpanzee, sits in the home of Sandy and Jerome Herold in Stamford, Conn., on Oct. 20, 2003. The 175-pound pet was shot and killed by police Monday after it attacked a woman.

PHOTOS BY KATHLEEN O'ROURKE, THE STAMFORD (CONN.) ADVOCATE/AP

Chimp killed by police after mauling woman

The Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — A 200-pound domesticated chimpanzee who once starred in TV commercials for Old Navy and Coca-Cola was shot dead by police after a violent rampage that left a friend of its owner badly mauled.

Sandra Herold, who owned the 15-year-old chimp named Travis, wrestled with the animal, stabbed it and hit it with a shovel after it inexplicably attacked her friend Charla Nash, 55.

Nash had gone to Herold's home in Stamford on Monday to help her coax the chimp back into the house after he got out, police said. After the animal lunged at Nash when she got out of her car, Herold ran inside to call 911 and returned armed.

"She retrieved a large butcher knife and stabbed her longtime pet numerous times in an effort to save her friend, who was really being brutally attacked," said Stamford police Capt. Richard Conklin. Herold told police that the knife had no effect, and that she also struck Travis with a shovel.

Nash was in critical condition Tuesday. Her sister-in-law, Kate Nash, said Tuesday morning that Nash underwent surgery Monday night and came out of it "OK."

Herold and two officers also received minor injuries, police said. Conklin said police don't know what triggered the attack.

"There was no provocation that we know of. One thing that we're

looking into is that we understand the chimpanzee has Lyme disease and has been ill from that, so maybe from the medications he was out of sorts. We really don't know," Conklin said.

Bronx Zoo primatologist Colleen McCann said Tuesday that chimpanzees are unpredictable and dangerous even after living among humans for years.

"It's deceiving to think that if any animal is ... well-behaved

around humans, that means there is no risk involved to humans for potential outbursts of behavior," she said. "They are unpredictable, and in instances like this you cannot control that behavior."

After the initial attack, Travis ran away, Conklin said. But the chimpanzee returned and went after several of the officers, Conklin said. An officer shot Travis after the animal opened the door to his cruiser and started to get in.



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GPS tracking idea angers some drivers

The Associated Press

BOSTON — A tentative plan to overhaul Massachusetts' transportation system by using GPS chips to charge motorists a quarter-cent for every mile behind the wheel has angered some drivers.

"It's outrageous, it's kind of Orwellian, Big Brotherish," said state Sen. Scott Brown, who drafted legislation last week to prohibit the practice. "You'd need a whole new department of cronies just to keep track of it."

But a "Vehicle Miles Traveled" program like the one the governor may unveil has already been tested — with positive results — in Oregon. Governors in Idaho and Rhode Island, as well as the federal government, also are talking about such programs. And in North Carolina, a panel suggested in December the state start charging motorists a quarter-cent for every mile as a substitute for the gas tax.

A draft overhaul transport plan prepared for Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick says: "A user-based system, collected electronically, is a fair way to pay for our transportation needs in the future."

FACES

WILL THE
REAL
JOAQUIN
PHOENIX
PLEASE
STAND?

Actor says he's fully dedicated
to new career in hip-hop

By DAVID GERMAIN
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES

Joaquin Phoenix is torn between two lovers in what he professes will be his last film.

As he talks passionately about his new pursuits, it seems he's not torn between artistic muses.

Movies are out, and music is in, Phoenix insists.

After the dark romantic drama "Two Lovers," which opened Friday, Phoenix said he is through with acting, and nothing is going to coax the two-time Academy Award nominee back to that first creative love.

"I'm not one of those people, like, when I break up

with my girlfriend, I don't ever see her again. I see her as friends, but do I ever think about getting back together? No, when I do something, I do it. So I have no intention," Phoenix, 34, said in an interview.

When Phoenix announced last fall that music was his new direction, many fans assumed he caught the country bug from playing Johnny Cash in 2005's "Walk the Line." Instead, he surprised people again by turning to hip-hop, a genre he says he's adored since his teens.

"I love the storytelling aspects of hip-hop, but I love the wordplay, as well," Phoenix said. "I just think the rhyming is fantastic, and I love, like, the raw emotion of it."

The switch has puzzled fans and prompted speculation that it's a put-on, fueled by a video that turned up on the Web last month showing Phoenix rapping in a Las Vegas nightclub. The poor-quality video, with virtually incomprehensible audio, was not the sort of thing to earn Phoenix many admirers.

"No matter how good it is, people are going to ... make fun of me. It's just impossible. It's just not going to happen, but I can't worry about that," Phoenix said. "What I was focusing on was the song and trying to make the show as good as possible."

Phoenix has built a home recording studio where he is laying down tracks for an album. He said he is not yet certain how it will be distributed, and while it is mostly

a solo effort, Phoenix hopes to do at least one track with rapper Diddy.

Now sporting a long, scraggly beard and scruffy hair, Phoenix has drawn online wisecracks about a look far removed from singer Cash's clean-cut stage appearance. The actor said it was not so much about copping a new image as distancing himself musically from Cash.

"I'm not going with a look. Part of it is in some ways, it's very hard, especially when you're talking about music, to get away from Johnny Cash," Phoenix said.

"I don't know that this is my look," Phoenix said. "I mean, I just have a beard."

In "Two Lovers," Phoenix plays an emotionally messed-up Brooklyn man living at home with his parents after a bad breakup. He embarks on an obsessive flirtation with a self-destructive neighbor (Gwyneth Paltrow) while courting the safe, sensible daughter (Vinessa Shaw) of a businessman interested in buying his parents' dry-cleaning operation.

Having seen how much strain acting puts on Phoenix, who stays in character throughout his shooting days, director James Gray said he takes the actor at his word that he's through with Hollywood.

Gray said he's seen Phoenix's elaborate home studio. "If he's not serious about it," Gray said, "then he really went to ridiculous lengths."

INSET: MAGNOLIA PICTURES;
OTHERS BY MATT SAYLES/AP

Above, below: Actor
Joaquin Phoenix poses
for a portrait in Beverly
Hills, Calif.
Inset: Phoenix in a scene
from "Two Lovers."



Hayek picks romantic day, place to wed

Salma Hayek picked a most romantic time and place to get married: Valentine's Day in Paris.

The Mexican-born actress wed French magnate Francois-Henri Pinault in a civil ceremony Saturday at the City Hall in Paris' chic 6th arrondissement, according to an official there.

The wedding was a small affair, said the official, who was speaking on condition of anonymity, in accordance with policy.

The nuptials followed a rocky romance. The two met in Italy in 2006, announced their engagement and had a baby, Valentina



Hayek

Paloma, in September 2007. Last year they broke off their engagement but made up a few months later.

GQ dubs Justin Timberlake 'stylish'

Justin Timberlake wins style props in the March issue of GQ magazine.

The magazine picked the entertainer to lead a list of the "10 Most Stylish Men in America." It singled out Timberlake for his impact on fashion, willingness to take risks and "knack for targeting trends" such as hats, three-piece suits, skinny ties and beards.

Other "Stylish Men" include Kanye West, T.I., Jason Schwartzman, hotelier Andre Balazs and photographer



Timberlake

Alexi Lubomirski.

New Chan film too violent for China

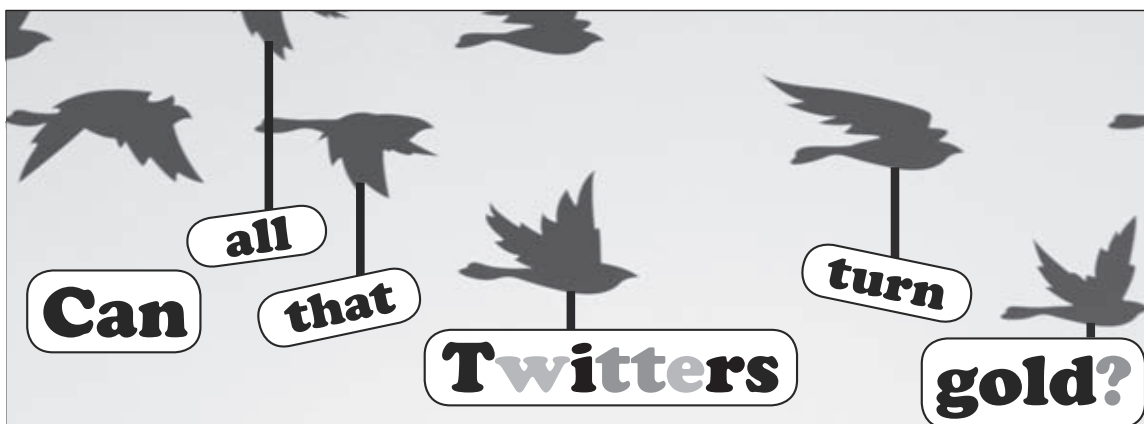
Jackie Chan, the comical kung fu king, is starring in a new movie so violent that its director decided not to release it in mainland China, which doesn't have a film ratings system.

Hong Kong director Derek Yee said on Monday that he considered toning down the violence in "Shinjuku Incident" so it could pass censorship in China, but decided not to because he thought it would hurt the integrity of the movie.

Yee said the \$25 million Chinese-language movie, in which Chan plays a refugee who escapes to Japan and becomes a killer for the mob, has scenes that show characters getting a hand chopped off and pierced with knives.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

WIRED WORLD



By MICHAEL LIEDTKE
The Associated Press

Twitter Inc. has spawned a new way to communicate by limiting messages to 140 keystrokes. So here's a way to describe the Internet's latest craze within Twitter's space restrictions:

It's a potluck of pithy self-expression simmering with whimsy, narcissism, voyeurism, hucksterism, tedium and sometimes useful information.

One vital ingredient has been missing from the mix so far — revenue. That raises questions about whether the nearly 3-year-old service can make the leap from intriguing fad to sustainable business.

Twitter intends to start testing ways to make money this spring. And co-founder Evan Williams promises it won't drive away the more than 6 million people who have set up accounts on the unconventional communications network.

"We don't see any reason why this can't be a very large and profitable entity," said Williams, the San Francisco-based company's chief executive. "We have enough traffic on our Web site that we could put ads on there and maybe we could make enough to pay our bills, but that's not the most interesting thing we can do."

Here's how Twitter works: After setting up a free account, people are encouraged to post frequent updates about what they are doing, seeing and feeling. The messages, known as "tweets," must be limited to 140 characters and can be sent from a mobile phone or a computer.

Twitter also has proven to be a valuable source for breaking news, sometimes even beating long-established media outlets to the punch.

Both Williams and another Twitter founder, Biz Stone, suggested the search technology could emerge as their company's crown jewel. Its value lies in its ability to quickly sift through a steady stream of tweets to provide almost instantaneous insights about what's going on around the corner or around the world. Not even Google's search engine can match that now.

"It's the same kind of challenge for these sites," said Peter Daboll, who has studied consumer behavior on the Internet for years, including in his latest job as CEO of Bunchball Inc. "How do they build on their great audiences and keep them engaged, without alienating them with a bunch of crap?"

Twitter founders Evan Williams, left, and Biz Stone.

JEFF CHIU/AP

File-sharing trial begins in Sweden

By LOUISE NORDSTROM
The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — A lawyer defending four men behind The Pirate Bay file-sharing Internet site said Tuesday that the prosecution is planning to drop some of the charges in the Swedish case.

Prosecutor Hakan Roswall will drop charges Wednesday related to "accessory in the production" of copyright-protected material, defense lawyer Per E. Samuelsson said. Instead, the prosecutor will focus on "assisting in making available" copyright material, Samuelsson said.

The reason for the decision was not immediately clear.

"It's as if half the prosecution has gone up in smoke," Samuelsson said. He called the decision "sensational."

The defendants are accused of breaking Swedish copyright law by helping Internet users worldwide download protected music, movies and computer games.

Despite attempts by authorities and the entertainment industry to shut the site down, The Pirate Bay continues to make copyrighted material available to an estimated 22 million users.

Two of the defendants insisted Sunday that their site was legal and said prosecutors wouldn't be able to shut it down even if they are convicted.

"What are they going to do about it? They have already failed to take down the site once. Let them fail again," Gottfrid Svartholm Warg said in a webcast news conference in Stockholm.

The Pirate Bay doesn't host copyrighted content, but directs users to films, music and other protected material through the bit torrent file-sharing system. Entertainment companies are seeking \$14.3 million in compensation for lost revenues.

Plaintiffs include Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc., MGM Pictures Inc., Columbia Pictures Industries Inc., 20th Century Fox Films Co., Sony BMG, Universal and EMI.

Peter Sunde, another defendant, said there was no grounds for the damages. "They won't get a cent," he said.

The other defendants are Fredrik Neij and Carl Lundström.

The four men are charged with accessory and conspiracy to break Swedish copyright law. If convicted, they could face up to two years in prison.

John Kennedy, chairman of the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, said the case was about protecting artists.

"The Pirate Bay has hurt creators of many different kinds of works, from music to film, from books to TV programs," he said in a statement.

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YOUR MONEY

Oil is getting cheaper — so why isn't gas?

By CHRIS KAHN
AND JOHN PORRETTO
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Crude oil prices have fallen to new lows for this year. So you'd think gas prices would sink right along with them.

Not so.

On Thursday, for example, crude oil closed just under \$34 a barrel, its lowest point for 2009. But the national average price of a gallon of gas rose to \$1.95 on the same day, its peak for the year. On Friday gas went a penny higher.

To drivers once again grimacing as they tank up, it sounds like a conspiracy. But it has more to do with an energy market turned upside-down than that has left gas cut off from its usual economic moorings.

The price of gas is indeed tied to oil. It's just a matter of which oil.

The benchmark for crude oil prices is West Texas Intermediate, drilled exactly where you would imagine. That's the price, set at the New York Mercantile Exchange, that you see quoted on business channels and in the morning paper.

Right now, in an unusual mar-

ket trend, West Texas crude is selling for much less than inferior grades of crude from other places around the world. A severe economic downturn has left U.S. storage facilities brimming with it, sending prices for the premium crude to five-year lows.

But it is the overseas crude that goes into most of the gas made in the United States. So prices at the pump will probably keep going up no matter what happens to the benchmark price of crude oil.

"We're going definitely over \$2, and I bet we'll hit \$2.50 before spring," said Tom Kloza, publisher and chief oil analyst at Oil Price Information Service. "This is going to be an unusual year."

On the last day of 2008, gas went for \$1.62 on average, according to the auto club AAA, the Oil Price Information Service and Wright Express, a company that tracks transpor-

tation data. The recession in America has dramatically cut demand for crude oil, and inventories are piling up. So prices for West Texas crude have fallen well below what oil costs from places like the North Sea, Saudi Arabia and

"We're going definitely over \$2, and I bet we'll hit \$2.50 before spring. ... This is going to be an unusual year."

Tom Kloza

Publisher and chief oil analyst at
Oil Price Information Service



PHOTOS BY PAUL SAKUMA/AP

A customer pumps gas at a gas station in Menlo Park, Calif. Murmurs of price gouging by gas station owners and big oil companies turned into a howl as benchmark crude prices fell to a yearly low on the same day that retail gas prices hit a new high.

South America.

That foreign oil sells in some cases for \$10 more per barrel — and that doesn't even include shipping.

Brent North Sea crude, which feeds some East Coast refineries — and therefore winds up at many gas pumps around America — now costs about \$7 more per barrel than the West Texas crude. Deutsche Bank analysts say the

trend should continue.

Historically, West Texas International crude has cost more. So nobody bothered building the necessary pipelines to carry it beyond the nearby refineries in the Midwest, parts of Texas and a handful of other places.

Now that the premium oil is suddenly very inexpensive, refiners elsewhere can't get their hands on it.

"It's so cheap," said Lynn Westphall, the senior VP of external affairs at San Antonio-based Tesoro, which owns a half-dozen refineries on the West Coast and Hawaii. "But you can't just build a pipeline to everywhere. We know we can't get it."

Tesoro's refineries in North Dakota and Utah use locally drilled oil and Canadian oil, which also has been running about \$10 more per barrel than West Texas crude.

At the same time, refiners have seen the same headlines as everyone else about job losses and consumer spending. They've slashed

production just to avoid taking losses on gasoline no one will buy. Result: Higher gas prices.

"Why should a refiner produce more gasoline when the stuff we produce is not being used?" Drevna said.

Of course, complex explanations of the diverging price paths of West Texas crude and gas are unlikely to placate frustrated drivers. Memories of last summer's \$4-plus gas have not receded.

"Drivers are being ripped off even more now than before," said Stuart Pollok, who was filling up recently at a Chevron station in downtown Los Angeles. He pointed out Exxon Mobil Corp. reeled in billions in profits last year when oil prices neared \$150.

Others see the conspiracy reaching higher.

"It got really low during the elections and now it's going back up," said Christel Sayegh, a 23-year-old graphic designer in Los Angeles. "They do that every election, though, right?"

MONDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES

52-week		Name	Last	Net Chg	% Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk
High	Low						Chg
13,136.69	7,449.38	Dow Jones Industrials	7,850.41	-82.35	-1.04	-10.55	-36.42
5,536.57	2,865.58	Dow Jones Transportation	2,957.28	-29.70	-99	-16.39	-37.12
530.57	294.30	Dow Jones Utilities	365.37	-1.16	-32	-14.5	-26.99
9,687.24	4,607.47	NYSE Composite	5,206.76	-49.69	-95	-9.56	-41.96
2,433.31	1,130.47	Amex Index	1,401.12	-4.54	-32	-2.26	-37.58
2,551.47	1,295.48	Nasdaq Composite	1,534.36	-7.35	-48	-2.71	-33.92
1,440.24	741.02	S&P 500	826.84	-8.35	-1.00	-8.46	-38.75
897.37	406.45	S&P MidCap	505.52	-3.99	-78	-6.09	-36.45
764.38	371.30	Russell 2000	448.36	-2.06	-46	-10.23	-36.09
14,564.81	7,340.74	DJ Wilshire 5000	8,385.74	-76.68	-91	-7.72	-38.58

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)					AMEX					NASDAQ				
Name	Vol	(00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol	(00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol	(00)	Last	Chg
BioAm	2345724	5.57	-30	SPDR	2712650	82.76	-90	PwShs QQQ	1346820	30.43	-14			
SPDR Fnd	1661767	8.85	-35	PSCrudeE	1486362	2.36	-17	Intel	532212	13.88	-12			
Citigrp	1337711	3.49	-12	SP Mid	99802	91.92	-96	Microsoft	469197	19.09	-17			
ProUHF	1100249	2.98	-24	BarrGSOL	36935	16.48	-39	Cisco	432530	16.10	-10			
DirxFinBul	949403	7.93	-77	BZ Res	28960	4.27	+92	ApplMail	281001	9.51	-09			
WellsFargo	870404	15.76	-104	EldorIdg	19329	8.46	-15	Dell Inc	271818	9.12	-05			
GenElec	850573	11.44	-24	NovadIdg	18801	3.64	+19	Oracle	271421	17.72	+17			
ProUHFSP	736277	31.44	+18	GoldSt4	17322	1.56	-07	ResMed	234953	48.51	-91			
Pfizer	575534	14.58	-07	Sapphire	15342	9.41	-01	Apple Inc	214439	99.16	-11			
JPMorgCh	572435	24.69	-150	NthgTM	13347	1.33	-06	FifthThird	200387	2.00	-20			

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Alliant Technology	...	11	80.37	+32	+6.3
Boeing	1.68	11	40.48	+62	+5.1
Computer Sciences	...	7	39.58	-13	+12.6
General Dynamics	1.40	9	54.49	+66	+5.4
General Electric	1.24	7	11.44	-24	-29.4
Halliburton	...	36	11	+14	+6
Harris Corp.	...	80	19	+27	+11.1
Allied Signal	1.21	9	33.06	+119	+7
L-3 Communications	1.40	11	78.17	+99	+6.0
Lockheed Martin	2.28	10	78.47	+109	+6.7
Northrop	1.60	...	47.19	+83	+4.8
Raytheon	1.12	12	46.74	+10	-8.4
Rockwell Int'l	1.16	7	24.10	-27	-25.2
Texas Instruments	...	44	12	+65	+9.2
Tetron Inc.	...	92	4	6.89	-50.3
United Technologies	1.54	10	47.09	+18	-12.1

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS

Name	NAV	Chg.	YTD %Ret.
Fidelity Invest: GroCo	48.56	-27	-8
Fidelity Spartan: GoldInv	29.31	+30	-8.1
Fidelity Invest: USBI	10.73	-05	-
Fidelity Invest: GroInc	11.85	-11	-10.0
Fidelity Invest: AMgr50	10.70	-04	-1.3
Fidelity Invest: Oversea	22.21	-16	-14.4
Amer Century Inv: Ultra	13.98	-08	-3.3
Putnam Funds A: GrInA p	8.41	-08	-10.4
AIM Investments A: ChartA p	10.99	-09	-5.3
AIM Investments A: Const p	16.27	-09	-3.4
Frank/Temp Fink A: SMCpGrA	20.23	+04	-3
DWS Invest S: GroIncS	10.56	-10	-3.7
Fidelity Advisor T: EgnIT	14.75	-17	-13.0
Fidelity Advisor T: GroOpT	18.89	-09	-8
DWS Invest S: Intl Fds	30.95	-12	-10.7
Putnam Funds A: GldSty p	5.83	-02	-6.5
Lord Abbett A: DevGTA p	10.65	+06	+4
Fidelity Advisor T: OverstA	11.81	-08	-12.1
DWS Invest S: CorPInc	9.65	-05	-5

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates

Japanese yen (Feb. 18)	89.00
South Korean won (Feb. 18)	1,404.00
Euro costs (Feb. 18)	1.2940
Dollar buys (Feb. 18)	€ 0.77281
British pound (Feb. 18)	\$1.46

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	3.771
Canada (Dollar)	1.4265
China (Yuan)	1.2652
Denmark (Krone)	5.9137
Egypt (Pound)	5.5740
Euro	\$1.2606/7933
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7546
Hungary (Forint)	244.20
Israel (Shekel)	4.1469
Japan (Yen)	92.09
Kuwait (Dinar)	2925
Norway (Krone)	7.0287
Philippines (Peso)	47.84
Poland (Zloty)	3.91
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7507
Singapore (Dollar)	1.5288
South Korea (Won)	1,451.50
Switzerland (Franc)	1.1750
Thailand (Baht)	35.28
Turkey (New Lira)	1.6888

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

PRECIOUS METALS

New York Merc close	
Gold	\$941.50
Silver	\$13.620

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.50
Federal funds market rate	0.00-0.25
3-month bill	0.28
30-year bond	3.68

Sources: Bank of America, The Associated Press



Gas prices are posted at a Valero gas station in Hayward, Calif. Last week, crude oil closed just under \$34 a barrel, its lowest point for 2009. But the national average price of a gallon of gas rose to \$1.95 on the same day, its peak for the year. On Friday, gas went a penny higher.

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Stars and Stripes (USPS 017252) is published daily (except Christmas and New Year's) for 50 cents daily and \$1 Sunday by the Stars and Stripes central office, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, Calif. Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002.

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Marine badges only for Marines

What's the deal with soldiers walking around with Marine Corps combat badges? I understand that a soldier has the right to wear the combat badge of his or her choice, so long as he or she has earned it. What I don't get is why someone would wear another branch's badge. Whatever happened to unit pride, or the pride of being a soldier in the Army?

To make matters worse, I see a lot of noncommissioned officers and officers walking around with those on their right sleeves. Are you telling me that these NCOs and officers would rather wear another service's badge than those of their units? Is that what this Army has come to?

Every soldier who deploys has a unit badge that, if they chose, can be worn as a combat badge. It's not like these soldiers have to wear the Marine badges because they didn't have a unit badge.

You can even go with the Multi-National Force-Iraq badge if, for some odd reason, you don't like your unit's badge.

I'm not trying to take anything away from the Marines. I've worked with them throughout Iraq, and they're great service people. They have their jobs, and I have mine. I'm just shocked that so many soldiers would rather wear another service's badge. I guess lack of pride has a lot to do with it. The way I see it, if I'd wanted a Marine Corps badge, I would've enlisted in the Marine Corps!

Tech. Sgt. Swinger Andrew
Camp Liberty, Iraq

Take the edge off comics page

I am a news junkie. I like to know what's going on in the world. But the first thing I read every day in Stars and Stripes is the

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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E-mail: letters@pstripes.osd.mil

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Stars and Stripes
Roppongi
Minato-ku

Tokyo 106-0032

comics. It starts my day with a smile.

Sometimes I chuckle at the workplace struggles and the quest to find a boyfriend in the comic strip "The Meaning of Lila." But more and more, I find myself put off by the blatant homosexuality preferences and sexual desires expressed in this particular strip. The Feb. 10 strip, which discussed an MTV show that deals topics relating to bisexuals and lesbian marriage, was inappropriate content for the comic section. Our children are now young adults. But they, like me, grew up reading the comics in the newspaper every day. The comic pages are, in my mind, not the place for such obvious sexuality.

Though I sometimes enjoy "The Meaning of Lila," I find it pushing the envelope more and more and would rather see it

replaced with something less edgy for the sake of our families.

Diane Wido

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

Card swiping bad for head count

I too would like to express my displeasure with Installation Management Command-Europe's new policy of putting its burden onto the patrons it is charged with supporting ("Gym policy a useless obstacle," letter, Feb. 17). I was informed that ICMC receives funding based on the number of patrons utilizing the facility. The staff usually did the head count but now that job falls to the individuals ICMC is supposed to be supporting. Card swiping for a head count does not take into account peak usage, length of stay, or any other relevant statistical usage that could be used to adjust hours, types and pieces of equipment and, yes, funding; these are all hands-on assessments that the staff can assist with.

The major problem with this policy is not the burden on the patrons but one of security. All buildings on Campbell Barracks in Heidelberg, Germany, are secured with an electronic card swipe that gives access to the areas that personnel are cleared to enter via a controlled Personal Identification Number. When I go to the gym the only identification I take is my common access card (CAC). Now with this new policy, I have to also bring my ID card, which I am going to have to remove from my wallet for the obvious security reasons of bringing and leaving my wallet in a unsecured facility.

Someone with some management and leadership skills should take charge and fix this misguided policy.

Andrew Holland

Heidelberg, Germany

Libya should pay victims' families

Washington Post editorial

We have long been critical of U.S. laws that allow individuals to sue nations for acts of terrorism and collect millions of dollars. Such laws strip countries of legal immunity — a move that makes the United States vulnerable to reciprocal legal attacks overseas. They also too often subvert national interests to the needs of a small group of people. Such victims often have heart-wrenching stories to tell. But allowing them to lay claim to the U.S.-based assets of a foreign country deprives the United States of an important negotiating tool.

Yet Congress has passed such laws since the late 1990s; in 2007, lawmakers approved the Lautenberg Amendment to give victims more legal muscle to seize the assets of state sponsors of terrorism. These provisions are, in short, the law of the land.

It is in this context that we urge fair treatment of a group of families that sued Libya and won a \$6 billion judgment, only

to see most of that win wiped out by the Bush administration. The families are related to seven Americans who were killed in 1989 aboard a UTA flight when a bomb sent it crashing into the desert in Niger. The seven families sued Libya for sponsoring the terrorist act. Last year, a judge in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia awarded the seven estates and 44 individual family members \$6 billion. A judgment of roughly \$1.6 billion was assessed against the state of Libya; the rest was levied against six Libyan officials responsible for the act. Each of the seven estates in the Pugh lawsuit — named after the lead plaintiff in the matter — was awarded an average of \$20 million; some individuals secured judgments of as much as \$26 million.

Last summer, President George W. Bush, backed by Congress, entered into a deal in which, among its terms, Libya agreed to establish a \$1.5 billion compensation fund for all American victims of Libyan-sponsored terrorism, including those harmed

or killed in the Egypt Air hijacking and the Rome airport attack of the 1980s. In exchange, the United States agreed essentially to wipe out all civil claims against Libya, including the Pugh judgment.

Although the deal guarantees \$10 million to each of the seven Pugh estates, whether the 44 individuals are entitled to any recovery has been left up to the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission to determine.

People with knowledge of the Bush administration's negotiations with Libya say that the Pugh judgment — and the fear that some two dozen other pending suits could result in huge awards — weighed heavily on Libya. The Pugh judgment, in other words, was an important catalyst in bringing Libya to the bargaining table.

Paying these particular individuals under these particular circumstances reinforces rather than conflicts with U.S. foreign policy. That the claimants are being paid with money directly and willingly supplied by the Libyan government is only fitting.

By GARRY TRUDEAU



OPINION/OMBUDSMAN

Truthfully, interest groups hold the power

By JONAH GOLDBERG
Los Angeles Times

"Speak truth to power," a phrase of Quaker origins adopted by campus radicals, Hollywood gadflies and establishment journalists, has become something of an abracadabra slogan to justify criticizing government or big corporations.

But I don't know many journalists who are afraid of the government, and most make their living from big corporations. Sure, liberals — which most journalists are — are afraid of what conservatives will do in power and vice versa. But they aren't very afraid of what government will do to them, specifically.

In fact, being singled out for criticism by the president of the United States is one of the greatest gifts a president can bequeath. To this day, aging has-beens exploit any opportunity to brag that they were on Richard Nixon's enemies list. When Bill Clinton denounced William Kristol in 1994 for monkey-wrenching health care reform, he helped make Kristol one of the most important people in Washington. Various White House assaults on Rush Limbaugh have him laughing all the way to the bank.

And yet, I've met innumerable writers and editors who are scared, even terrified, of one or more of these groups: gays, blacks, Latinos, Asians, Jews, feminists,

evangelical Christians and the handicapped. You can write 100 columns calling the president a mass-murdering, sexually depraved sociopath, or demanding that we nationalize the oil companies, but don't you dare invite the wrath of Mothers Against Drunk Driving or the parents of autistic kids or (shudder) cat lovers.

(I once wrote a column supporting the hunting of feral cats in Wisconsin, where up to 217 million birds are killed by wild felines each year. Several veteran editors sent me notes marveling at my naivete. Indeed, the e-mail response was so frightening, I nearly put my family in hiding. By the way, I now believe feral cats should be permitted to dine on schoolchildren if they so desire.)

And it's not just journalists. Politicians are petrified of seeming hostile toward members of the "coalition of the oppressed." Our legislators cower in fear of earning the wrath of gays, but will brag in their direct mail that they are at war with the White House or that they've stood up to the military-industrial complex.

But even the gay bullies on "Seinfeld" can't hold a candle to radical Muslims in terms of their ability to strike fear in the hearts of others.

Just look at Britain. It is currently harboring a gaggle of non-British Muslim preachers who call for, among other things, the slaughter of Jews and the imposition of

Sharia law in Britain. These people are accepted, sometimes even given welfare benefits, in the name of pluralism, multiculturalism and tolerance.

But when Geert Wilders, a documentary maker and member of the Dutch parliament, was invited by British members of Parliament to screen his documentary critical of the Quran in London, the government said, in effect: "Whoa, whoa, whoa! We can't tolerate that." Wilders has been barred from the country because his ideas "threaten community harmony."

If only Wilders' supporters beheaded people or thronged outside embassies spewing various "death to" chants, he might have been invited to have tea with the queen.

Speaking of beheading, have you heard about the founder of a television network in upstate New York dedicated to showing Muslims as peace-loving and political moderates? You might have when he started his enterprise in 2004, as the venture received lavish attention. But when Muzzammil Hassan allegedly cut off his estranged wife's head this month, coverage not only was muted, but the media bent over backward to dispel any notion that religion had

anything to do with it. After all, isn't wife-beheading an ecumenical practice?

One can run through a long list of contortions and double standards when it comes to Muslims: Honor killings swept under the rug, theater productions canceled, books shelved by publishers, thought-crime tribunals in Canada, death threats over political cartoons. Chin-strokers at the State Department will tell you U.S. foreign policy needs to cater to the "Muslim street," which chants "death

to America" as a voice warm-up exercise.

But the point here isn't to single out Muslims. Of course most Muslims are law-abiding and peaceful. And I would say that even if the Council for American-Islamic Relations wasn't prepared to hound me from public life for saying otherwise.

But it's worth remembering that government and corporations aren't the only institutions that can abuse power. Factions, to borrow a word from the Federalist Papers, have a power all their own. When governments cave to that power, they become mere tools of bullies. And when journalists go along for the ride, there's no one left to speak truth to power when that is what's needed most.

Jonah Goldberg is a Los Angeles Times columnist.

Battle brews over 1st Amendment on the battlefield

With George W. Bush gone from the White House, "now is the time to renegotiate the rules of engagement between the military and the media,"

the head of The Associated Press recently declared. "Now is the time to insist that the First Amendment does apply to the battlefield."

The AP executive, CEO Tom Curley, argues that the military has "weaponized information" and that President Barack Obama must rein in the Pentagon. By way of example, Curley cites a recent AP report on a \$4.7 billion effort to influence opinion "in

favor of U.S. military endeavors," such as the intensifying conflict in Afghanistan.

"Now is the time to resist the propaganda the Pentagon produces and live up to our obligation to question authority and thereby protect our democracy," he said. "Now is the time for the media to sit down with the military and determine a workable set of ground rules that serve the American people."

Curley has a distinguished record as an advocate of news media and First Amendment causes. And as head of the world's largest newsgathering operation, his words and sentiments will carry weight in any renewed discussions of press-military relations and will no doubt inform individual journalists' confrontations with balky military officials.

Indeed, his speech, given Feb. 6 at the University of Kansas and reported in an AP dispatch carried by Stars and Stripes, is a call to arms, so to speak, for journalists to prevail upon Obama and the military to loosen the rules governing access and "to insist that the First Amendment does apply to the battlefield."

Curley's passion is partly fueled by the two-year detention of Bilal Hussein, an Iraqi AP photographer seized by Marines

near Ramadi in 2006.

"The United States military stripped him of the right to habeas corpus, the right to freedom of expression, freedom of association and the right to due process," Curley said. "And when the military was forced finally to produce the evidence against him in a court of law, an Iraqi judicial panel found it without merit."

Although Curley cited more than a century of abrasive military-press history, he blamed Bush and former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld for a military culture that has made "distinguishing fact from propaganda" increasingly difficult and the adoption of "al-Qaida's tactics" permissible in the struggle for hearts and minds.

Journalists, he said, are "the only force out there to keep the government in check and to hold it accountable."

In his speech, Curley cited the new Defense Media Activity umbrella group as emblematic of a looming Pentagon propaganda arsenal, an example I note because Stars and Stripes has been dragged — organizationally — into the DMA tent.

As ombudsman of Stars and Stripes (which incidentally publishes and posts

reams of AP copy), I am charged by Congress with reporting any deviation from the mandate that Stripes operate with First Amendment freedoms, free of censorship or propaganda, and that it abide by mainstream journalism standards in deciding what to report — or not — and how to present the news it gathers.

In one month on the job, I have seen no evidence that Stars and Stripes journalists are doing anything other than meeting those standards in their reporting, writing, editing and photography.

Moreover, a number have asserted that despite the paper's government affiliation, Stripes reporters often face the same obstacles in gaining access to military news as their counterparts in commercial media — and the same repercussions for critical reporting.

It should be heartening to Stripes staffers, readers, taxpayers and even skeptics that no less a Pentagon critic than Thomas E. Ricks, the Pulitzer Prize-winning former defense reporter for the Washington Post and the Wall Street Journal, wrote on his Foreign Policy blog Jan. 6 that Stars and Stripes "nowadays provides the best coverage of U.S. military operations

in Iraq."

But much can change in the 35 months left in my term, and I will keep my mind, and eyes, open.

Still, before Curley's call for renewed talks on military-press rules is acted upon, Stripes readers, who have an indisputable stake in the outcome, ought to be heard from.

So I ask you to speak up — with letters to the editor, which will be published in Stars and Stripes, on its Web site, or both, and in comments you can post online at my blog.

I just ask that you first read Curley's speech in full and look over the related links I provide online, and keep your remarks on point, not the players.

This is an important issue, to you as the people who wear the uniform in harm's way, to the journalists who wear no uniform but often share the same risks and hardships, and to those whose welfare all purport to serve.

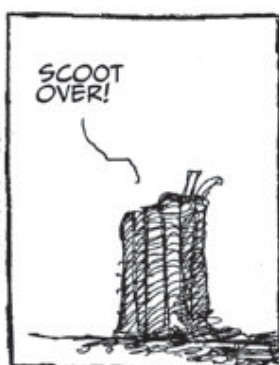
Got a question or suggestion for the ombudsman on what appears, or should appear, in Stars and Stripes? Send an e-mail to ombudsman@stripes.com, or phone 202-761-0945 in the States. For several links associated with this column, please go to Mark Prendergast's Right to Know blog. It can be found at <http://blogs.stripes.com/blogs/the-right-to-know>

OMBUDSMAN



Mark J. Prendergast

Prickly City



By SCOTT STANTIS

Lead rules hurt dirt bike industry

MT HELENA — A new national limit on lead in children's products — which has toy makers scrambling for new testing methods and retailers for storage space for inventory they're not sure they can sell — also is forcing motorcycle dealers to pull dirt bikes off showroom floors.

It became illegal to sell off-road machines geared for children younger than 12 because parts in them contain lead at levels greater than 600 parts per million. Most motor vehicles have such parts.

First beaver sighted in Detroit River in 75 years

MI DETROIT — Wildlife officials are celebrating the sighting of a beaver in the Detroit River for the first time in decades, signaling that efforts to clean up the waterway are paying off.

The Detroit Free Press reports that a beaver lodge has been discovered in an intake canal at a Detroit Edison riverfront plant. Officials believe the beaver spotted by the utility's motion-sensitive camera marks the animal's return to the river for the first time in at least 75 years.

John Hartig, Detroit River refuge manager for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, says the cleanup along the river has also brought back sturgeons, peregrine falcons and other species.

Photos of Hawaii islands are just a click away

HI KAILUA-KONA — So many people liked seeing freelance photographer Brian Powers' aerial photos of the Big Island's coastline on the Web that he's shot and posted pictures of all the other major Hawaiian islands.

Powers shot the entire 300 miles of the Big Island's coastline from his single-engine Piper Cherokee plane in late 2004. He posted photos from the experimental project on his Web site for everyone to see, for free, about a year and a half later.

The images were a hit, prompting 30 to 40 people to call and e-mail Powers to say they wanted to see similar pictures of the other islands.

Schools destroying recalled peanuts

MN EDGERTON — Schools in the Edgerton and Round Lake-Brewster school districts are in the process of destroying recalled peanuts in their inventories.

Edgerton Christian Elementary School Principal Randy Pfeifle said the peanuts were destroyed at his school, which received 12 cans of recalled peanuts, according to a release by Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar's office.

"We don't use peanuts a lot in our meals; we get very few cases in a year," he explained.

"We were glad to get them recalled before they were put out on the line. It's nice to catch it before it happens."



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

3 dead in apparent double murder-suicide

TX LUFKIN — Three people are dead near Lufkin after an apparent double murder-suicide.

Investigators believe 45-year-old Rickey Mullin of Lufkin shot and killed his estranged wife and her mother before turning the gun on himself.

Authorities found the bodies of Margaret Renee Mullin, 35, and her mother, 58-year-old Brenda Sue Mayo Alderman, in a van. Rickey Mullin's body was found in the yard of his home.

Wild horse inheritance funds are drying up

NV CARSON CITY — Nevada's wild horses benefited for decades from money left to them by a Californian whose relatives said he was insane. Those funds finally are being used up, but state lawmakers have been told the horses have another deep-pockets benefactor.

There are nearly 19,000 horses roaming vast stretches of open Nevada land — two-thirds of all

the wild horses scattered over 10 Western states. About 33,000 other horses have been captured in those states and are now in holding pens and corrals.

Cathy Barcomb, who heads the Nevada Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses, said the horses will be helped by groups such as the Mustang Heritage Foundation, which was started with Heil funds, and by individuals such as Madeleine Pickens, wife of billionaire Texas oilman T. Boone Pickens.

Parachutist dies jumping from mountain base

AZ PHOENIX — A parachutist jumping from a mountain base in Arizona has died after falling 250 feet with a chute that apparently failed to open.

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office spokesman Doug Matteson says dispatchers received a 911 call that a parachutist had been injured after jumping off a mountain base near Saguaro Lake northeast of Phoenix. Rescuers eventually reached the man.

Man with anti-DWI device crashes car

NY NEW YORK — Police on Long Island say a convicted drunken driver whose car was equipped with anti-drunken driving technology has crashed a rented vehicle while intoxicated.

Suffolk County police say Marvin Rice Jr. lost control of his rental car and hit a utility pole in Brentwood.

Stony Brook University Medical Center says Rice, 27, is in critical condition.

Police say the driver agreed after a previous DWI conviction to equip his car with a device that tests for alcohol in a driver's breath before starting the car.

Center wants to register more organ donors

HI HONOLULU — The Organ Donor Center wants to raise the number of registered organ donors in the islands, noting 16 people died in Hawaii last year waiting for a donated organ transplant.

Less than 40 percent of Hawaii drivers are registered as donors. The Organ Donor Center hopes to increase that figure with a Web site where anyone can sign up as a donor, said Stephen Kula, Organ Donor Center of Hawaii executive director.

Africanized bees found in Utah for the first time

UT SALT LAKE CITY — Africanized honey bees have been found for the first time in the Beehive State.

The bees, long the subject of lore as "killer bees," were recently discovered in Utah's Washington and Kane counties, the state Department of Agriculture said.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture confirmed that seven hives — three in the wild and four managed by private beekeepers — contained Africanized bees. The hives have since been destroyed.



Made for each other Mr. Potato Head gives Mrs. Potato Head flowers on Valentine's Day on the street outside Hasbro's American International Toy Fair showroom in New York.



He likes the pictures Wofford College student Jared Horton reads a book to Mikel as part of Wofford's "Living With Dogs" interim course, which includes students volunteering at the Spartanburg Animal Shelter in Spartanburg, S.C.



Mini models Children in tutus wait to walk the runway during the first Barbie Mattel show during Fashion Week in New York to celebrate Barbie's 50th anniversary.



Daddy's home!

Sp. Kiel Bragg holds his daughter Bailee, 2, during his homecoming ceremony at the Kentucky Air National Guard base in Louisville, Ky. After a year in Iraq, members of the 223rd Military Police Company, a Kentucky National Guard unit, were reunited with family and friends at a homecoming celebration.



All together now ... People crowd into the Oregon State Capitol for Oregon's Sesquicentennial Celebration in Salem, Ore. Despite the sagging economy, thousands of people were in a mood to celebrate as they jammed into the state Capitol for a birthday bash marking Oregon's 150 years of statehood.



Don't you love that face? Roxy — a boxer owned by Virginia Grillo of Ormond Beach, Fla., is dressed in a kid's Halloween costume as the Lion King. Roxy took second place in a costume contest at the Hearts for Paws event held at the Faith Lutheran Church in Ormond Beach.



Sad college memory Leslie Pearson of Rockford, Ill., cuddles Callie at the Holmes Student Center at a memorial on the Northern Illinois University campus in Dekalb, Ill., to mark the first anniversary of when a gunman fatally shot five students in a lecture hall before turning the gun on himself.



All mine A tractor-trailer is parked at a loading dock at the Mountain Complex, a storage facility built into a former mine in a mountain near Branson, Mo. Missouri lawmakers are considering a proposal that would give companies tax breaks for locating data processing or Internet publishing operations in such formerly abandoned mines.

Sea otters' diet clue to their slow recovery

CA DAVIS — UC Davis researchers trying to understand the sea otter's slow recovery in California have found an important clue: Some sea otters feed almost exclusively on animals that raise their risk of being infected with potentially deadly parasites. Abalone is sea otters' preferred food. But in places where otters have to compete for food, they must eat a variety of prey, such as small crabs, clams, small snails or worms, and they pass those habits to their offspring. In the new study, sea otters that ate abalone had the lowest rates of parasitic infection. In contrast, sea otters living along the coast between San Simeon and Cambria that specialized in eating marine snails had the highest rates of infections with *Toxoplasma gondii*, a parasite that can cause brain infections.

Upscale eatery to pay waiters \$2.5M in suit

NY NEW YORK — An international upscale restaurant group partly owned by actor Robert De Niro has agreed to pay \$2.5 million to settle a lawsuit over the way it handled worker tips. The New York Post reports that the plaintiffs in a class action suit against the Nobu eateries filed a motion to request final approval of the settlement. The suit accuses managers and sushi chefs of illegally taking a share of tips given to the wait staff. Waiters also complained about being shortchanged on overtime. Court papers say some 200 employees have signed off on the settlement, which would give them about \$3,300 each.

Two deaths inspire drunken-driving bill

KS WICHITA — The deaths of a woman and her 4-year-old daughter last October have inspired a bill aimed at impaired drivers. It would create a new crime in Kansas: aggravated drunken driving. Republican Rep. Aaron Jack, who introduced the bill, said he was horrified by the deaths of Claudia Mijares and her daughter, who were run down in a school crosswalk.

Man accused of shooting at mother's plowman

ME LAGRANGE — A 34-year-old man is now facing attempted elevated aggravated assault charges after allegedly firing his rifle at a man who was plowing his mother's driveway. The charges have been upgraded since Timothy Turner of LaGrange was first arrested. State police say the 36-year-old victim, whom they aren't naming, was plowing Turner's mother's driveway before dawn when shots rang out. Two bullets went into the truck's windshield, one hit the radiator and another bullet punctured a tire. Police said the driver and a passenger, 22, had to jump out of the way of flying bullets and are surprised no one was hit.

State Trooper Christopher Foxworth said the scene "was just madness." The two victims got the truck out of the driveway and drove with a flat tire to the nearby home of the driver's parents.

Hunters object to way deer population thinned

MS HANCOCK COUNTY — Hunters are unhappy with how Stennis Space Center is thinning the deer population on its 13,000 acres. Government hunters are killing the deer at night, using the normally illegal method of headlighting, according to a hunting club member, Gregg Lichtenstein. Hunting clubs are allowed to hunt on the property three times a year, but members are unhappy government hunters are encroaching. The meat is distributed to food banks.

Hefty price tag for private bighorn hunt

NE LINCOLN — A man from Kansas paid \$80,000 to win the right to hunt bighorn sheep in the Pine Ridge area. John Marsh of Topeka will receive four days of guide service and other amenities at Fort Robinson State Park during the hunting season in December. Marsh won an open auction, while only Nebraska residents can apply through August to win a permit in the Game and Parks Commission lottery.

City profits from anonymous donor

CT NEW HAVEN — A mystery donor has enriched New Haven's coffers by at least \$12,000 over the years. The city controller said someone has been sending money anonymously since 2002, including more than \$4,800 in cash one week. Officials have already checked taxes and other late accounts in case someone was trying to pay a bill.

Audit shows law to curb phone use not working

MS JACKSON — An audit shows a 2006 state law designed to curb cell phone usage among state agencies failed to save any money. The law was passed after a 2004 audit showed the state was paying for more than 5,000 government-issued phones. But a recent report said agencies added more than 1,000 wireless devices to the state's tab since 2004, pushing service subscription costs up 25 percent.

Couple gets creative to save wedding costs

UT ST. GEORGE — To save money, a Wal-Mart sales assistant held his wedding inside a store — in the garden center next to the barbecue accessories. Greg Scott Ford's bride Corissa Otto explained the venue by saying "we are so darned broke." The couple, who first met two Valentine's Days ago, exchanged vows before a state judge.

Horoscope

The Capricorn moon gives a push to finish ambitious jobs between now and Sunday night. There's no reason to wait for the funding, the manpower or the inspiration — it might not be coming. All that's needed now is the desire to finish. Take initiative. Those who dive will progress, and not without a certain amount of well-earned pride.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (FEBRUARY 19). Your experimental mood lasts all year. You are up for approaching life in new ways and you continue the actions that get favorable results. You will turn a work situation in your favor in March. A tenderhearted romance sweeps you up in the spring. Positive habits improve your financial picture in July. Leo and Capricorn adore you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your instincts are usually spot-on, but not absolutely always. Sometimes first impressions are based on a shortage of information. Today, let your "second impression" be your guide on an important decision.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you pick all the imperfect petals off that flower, you'll be left with just the stem. It's the flaws that make living things beautiful. Embrace the so-called defects in your self and others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Here's a secret to let out right now: You have talent. You feel gloriously alive when you are being creative. Others will see you shine and they'll be inspired to follow the muses, too.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The Greek philosopher Epictetus said the reason you have two ears and only one mouth is so you can listen twice as much as you talk. There's information that you really need to hear out there today. Pay attention.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Let logic be your guide. Someone needs to see the obvious, and it's your job to point it out. Tell them in that sweet but direct

way you have; they'll thank you later.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You wish you could help a loved one more, but it's just not in the stars for now. Let go with love. Each person has unique, individual lessons and you can't learn for anyone who is not you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're smiling with good reason, but not everybody needs to know exactly why. Share your high spirits with your supportive, trusted circle and at least one stranger. Good cheer will come back to you tenfold.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Ennui may creep in. It's nice to know you're capable of dawdling. Even non-activities like pacing the floor have a purpose. You need time to process events. Tomorrow you can return to your usual whirlwind.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Someone who says everything is fine could actually use some support from you. Don't push to get all the details of the problem, just be there. When this person is ready to talk, you'll be ready, too.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Something you did last week is bugging you. There was good reasoning, and yet you wouldn't do the same thing now. Use your imagination to travel through time, forgive the past you and then return to the present.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Sometimes your best work is done in the background, but this time is different. Step forward and make your voice heard. Not only is it in your best interest, but it's critical for someone close to you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Someone who tends to cry wolf will actually be right this time. It's so easy to dismiss this call that you might not recognize the red flag waving. So be vigilant. You could be the one to save the day.

Creators Syndicate

SU/DO/KU

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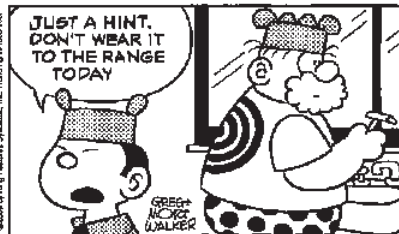
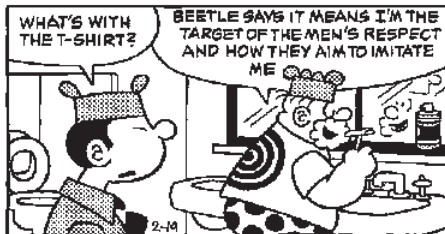
Difficulty: Hard

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's Solution

1	6	3	8	2	4	9	7	5
5	9	8	6	7	1	2	3	4
2	4	7	9	5	3	8	6	1
4	7	9	2	1	8	6	5	3
6	2	1	5	3	7	4	8	9
3	8	5	4	6	9	7	1	2
8	1	2	7	4	5	3	9	6
7	5	6	3	9	2	1	4	8
9	3	4	1	8	6	5	2	7

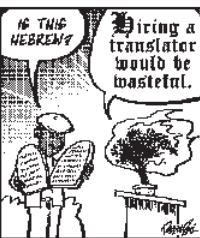
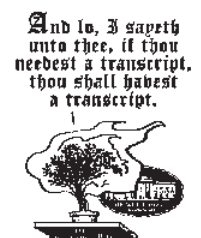
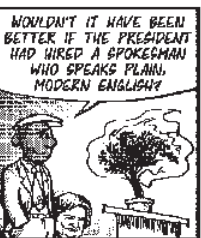
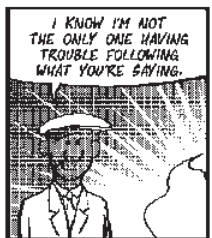
Beetle Bailey



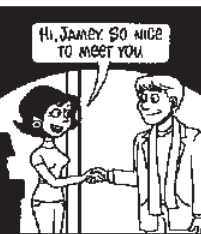
Get Fuzzy



Candorville



Meaning of Lila



Knight Life



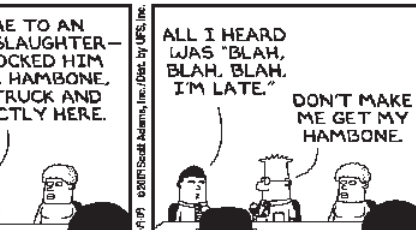
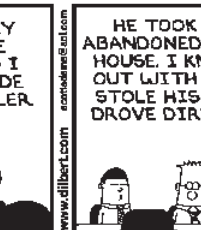
Baldo



Other Coast



Dilbert



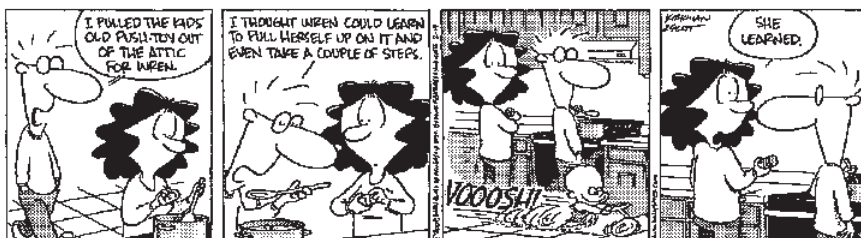
Frazz



Garfield



Baby Blues



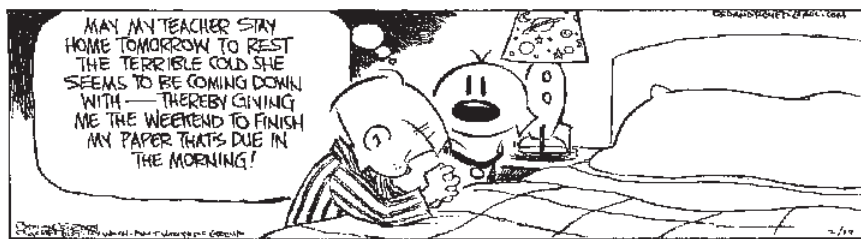
Jump Start



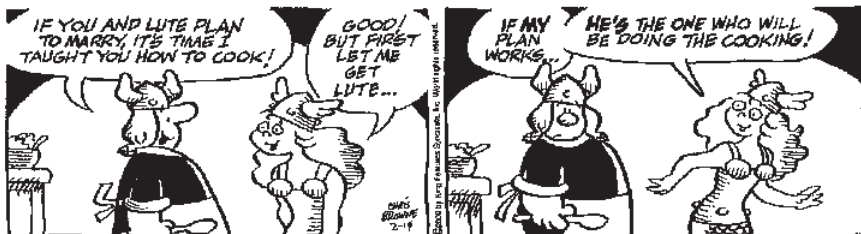
Zits



Red & Rover



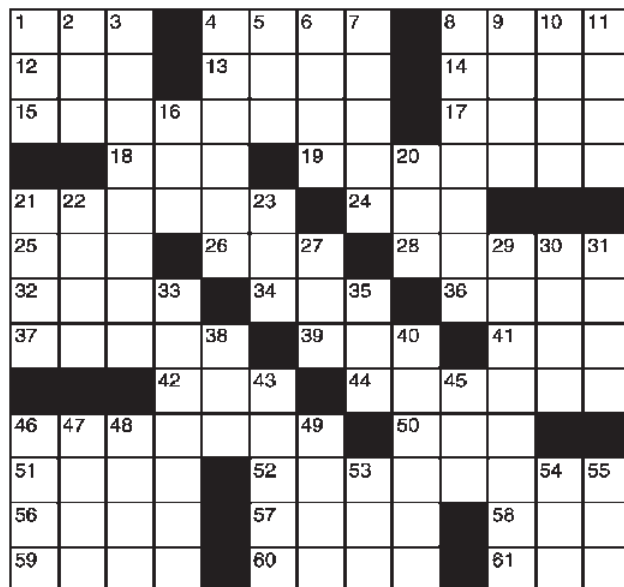
Hagar



Better or Worse



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Ain't no more
- 4 Hand warmer
- 8 Supermarket supply
- 12 Request
- 13 Taj Mahal city
- 14 Send forth
- 15 Easy field goal
- 17 Competent
- 18 Sajak or Summerall
- 19 Middle kid, in a sitcom
- 21 Pen VIP
- 24 Author Buscaglia
- 25 "I" strain?
- 26 Wish otherwise
- 28 Further down the page
- 32 99 of the 101 Dalmatians
- 34 Playground game
- 36 Rebuff a masher
- 37 Choppers
- 39 Aries
- 41 Lemieux milieu
- 42 Have 44-ACROSS
- 44 Evening meal
- 46 Big con
- 50 — de deux
- 51 PBS science show
- 52 Hidden trigger
- 56 Hebrew month
- 57 Green land
- 58 Margery of rhyme
- 59 Money
- 60 Encounter
- 61 CBS logo

DOWN

- 1 Servicewoman
- 2 Blond shade
- 3 Do some pre-bout exercise
- 4 Get down
- 5 "Bleech!"
- 6 Gift-tag word
- 7 Deadly
- 8 Signal lights
- 9 Early pulpit
- 10 Underwater breathing apparatus?
- 11 Goblet part
- 16 Cushion
- 20 Mainlander's memento
- 21 Sobbed
- 22 Malaria symptom
- 23 Enthusiast
- 27 Corn spike
- 29 Opposite result
- 30 "The Amazing —"
- 31 Unoriginal one
- 33 "The Daily Show" host
- 35 Petrol
- 38 Meccan pilgrimage
- 40 Snufflepapug, e.g.
- 43 Tribe emblem
- 45 Manhandle
- 46 Hosiery woe
- 47 Protuberance
- 48 Elliptical
- 49 Soft cheese
- 53 Rage
- 54 Comedian Romano
- 55 Flock member

Answer to Previous Puzzle



2-19

CRYPTOQUIP

HK FNQ VIXDDF BIDHARW HM
VIXBHMA WRI MNEIDZ NK
PVHWIV PXQAR, H ZQYYNZI

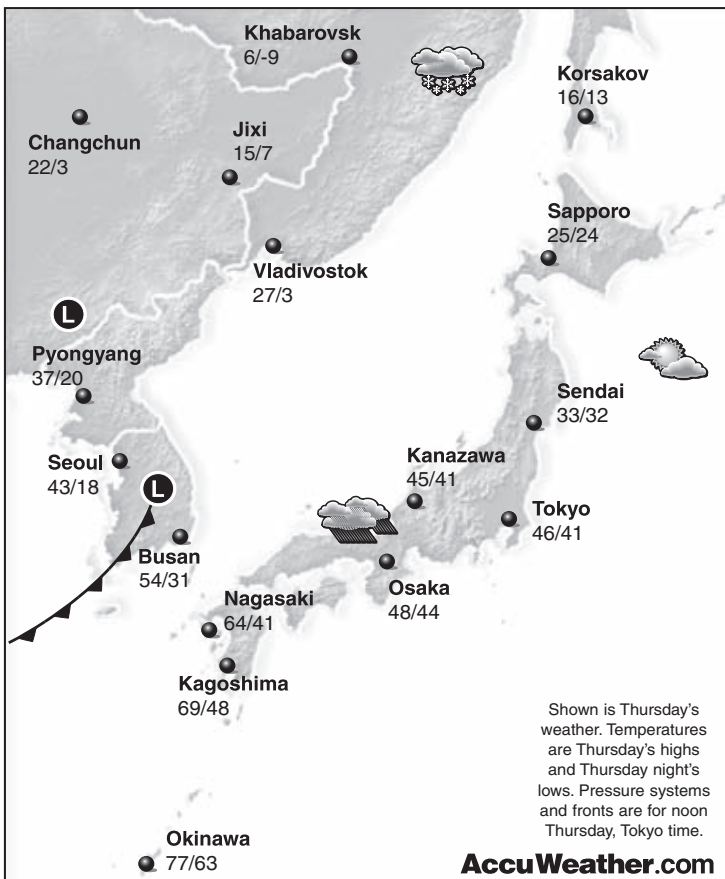
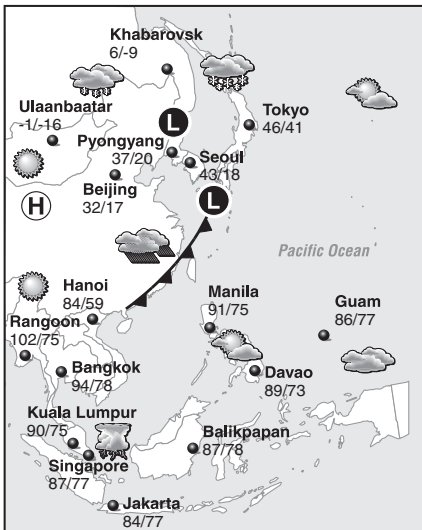
FNQ VIEID HM IEIDFM.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THOSE TWO STUBBORN OLD GOATS LOVE TO ARGUE OVER EVERYTHING. THEY ARE ALWAYS BUTTING HEADS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals I

TIDE TABLES

Location	High	Low	High	Low
Thursday				
Japan				
Yokosuka	10:09 a.m.	7:49 p.m.	none	none
Sasebo	6:10 a.m.	11:12 a.m.	3:52 p.m.	11:27 p.m.
Naha	4:47 a.m.	8:50 a.m.	2:29 p.m.	10:26 p.m.
Hachinohe	8:23 a.m.	6:06 p.m.	none	none
Korea				
Cheju Island/Sogwipo	6:23 a.m.	1:51 p.m.	6:59 p.m.	none
Kunsan	10:43 a.m.	4:24 a.m.	11:08 p.m.	6:11 p.m.
Guam				
Apra Harbor	5:42 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	2:10 p.m.	10:26 p.m.
Friday				
Japan				
Yokosuka	4:04 a.m.	8:19 a.m.	12:52 p.m.	8:48 p.m.
Sasebo	6:59 a.m.	12:32 p.m.	5:32 p.m.	none
Naha	5:38 a.m.	10:39 a.m.	4:06 p.m.	11:20 p.m.
Hachinohe	10:02 a.m.	7:12 p.m.	none	none
Korea				
Cheju Island/Sogwipo	8:17 a.m.	1:05 a.m.	8:46 p.m.	3:18 p.m.
Kunsan	12:40 p.m.	6:15 a.m.	none	7:56 p.m.
Guam				
Apra Harbor	6:25 a.m.	10:53 a.m.	3:28 p.m.	11:20 p.m.

For tides at other sites apply minutes to Naha tides:
Sukku, Ora Wan: -39, Sesoko Byochi: +11 high and low tide:
Uiten Ko: -7 high, -8 low, Yonabaru, Buckner Bay: -44 high, -42 low.



Shown is Thursday's weather. Temperatures are Thursday's highs and Thursday night's lows. Pressure systems and fronts are for noon Thursday, Tokyo time.

AccuWeather.com



Cold Front Warm Front Stationary Front High Low

CANADA

City	Hi	Lo	W
Calgary	35	16	PCldy
Edmonton	28	8	Snow
Halifax	35	32	Snow
Idaho	9	23	Cldy
Montreal	34	21	Snow
Ottawa	35	22	Snow
Quebec	27	23	Snow
Rapids	14	29	Cldy
Toronto	35	22	Snow
Vancouver	47	33	PCldy
Whitehorse	21	7	Cldy
Windsor	29	19	Fly
Winnipeg	6	-6	Cldy
Yellowknife	8	-5	Cldy

EUROPE

City	Hi	Lo	W
Amsterdam	45	39	Rain
Athens	55	40	Shwr
Belgrade	26	18	Cldy
Berlin	30	23	Cldy
Brussels	43	36	Cldy
Dublin	45	36	PCldy
Glasgow	45	32	PCldy
Lisbon	64	46	Sun
London	48	39	PCldy
Madrid	63	34	Sun
Moscow	27	14	Cldy
Paris	43	36	Rain
Rome	46	25	Sun
Warsaw	27	21	Snow

MIDDLE EAST

City	Hi	Lo	W
Ashgabat	50	33	PCldy
Baghdad	60	47	Cldy
Cairo	77	57	PCldy
Dhahran	75	57	PCldy
Islamabad	76	50	Shwr
Incirlik	60	47	Sun
Kabul	44	31	Rain
Karachi	85	68	Sun
Kuwait	70	57	PCldy
Mazar-e-Sharif	53	39	Rain
Tehran	50	38	PCldy
Tel Aviv	80	55	PCldy
Zahedan	71	40	Sun

AFRICA

City	Hi	Lo	W
Abidjan	84	75	Tstm
Algiers	61	41	Sun
Cape Town	71	57	PCldy
Casablanca	71	48	Sun
Durban	86	73	Sun
Freetown	91	73	Sun
Kano	101	60	Sun
Khartoum	104	68	Sun
Kisangani	79	67	Tstm
Luanda	90	77	Sun
Malakal	107	68	PCldy
Mogadishu	90	75	Sun
Tabora	78	66	Tstm
Timbuktu	85	64	PCldy

LATIN AMERICA

City	Hi	Lo	W
Acapulco	88	72	Sun
Bogota	66	46	Rain
Buenos Aires	95	77	PCldy
Cancun	87	67	Sun
Havana	85	53	Sun
Kingston	83	75	Shwr
Lima	84	66	Cldy
Mexico City	72	45	PCldy
Nassau	83	65	PCldy
Puerto Plata	81	76	Sun
Rio de Janeiro	83	75	PCldy
Santiago	84	52	PCldy
Santo Domingo	85	67	Sun
San Jose	77	68	Rain

ASIA / PACIFIC

City	Hi	Lo	W
Auckland	75	74	Cldy
Colombo	89	74	PCldy
Darwin	92	78	Cldy
Dhaka	86	69	Sun
Hong Kong	73	64	Rain
Kathmandu	84	42	Sun
Melbourne	83	66	Sun
Mumbai	92	75	Sun
New Delhi	77	52	Sun
Phnom Penh	91	75	PCldy
Shanghai	50	38	Rain
Sydney	82	68	PCldy
Taipei	82	61	PCldy
Xining	48	12	PCldy

THURSDAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

City	Hi	Lo	W
Abilene, TX	63	42	Sun
Akron, OH	27	16	Fly
Albany, NY	40	23	Fly
Albuquerque	54	28	Fly
Allentown, PA	40	22	PCldy
Amarillo	44	29	Sun
Anchorage	33	24	Snow
Asheville	40	22	PCldy
Atlanta	52	25	Sun
Atlantic City	47	24	PCldy
Austin	69	40	Sun
Baltimore	46	25	PCldy
Baton Rouge	62	36	Sun
Billings	42	24	PCldy
Birmingham	50	29	Sun
Bismarck	20	10	Cldy
Boise	44	27	PCldy
Boston	43	32	Cldy
Bridgeport	47	27	PCldy
Brownsville	82	58	PCldy
Buffalo	32	21	Snow
Burlington	35	22	Sun
Caribou, ME	28	21	Snow
Casper	40	20	PCldy
Charleston, SC	62	32	PCldy
Charleston, WV	33	19	Fly
Charlotte, NC	53	25	Sun
Chattanooga	45	24	PCldy
Cheyenne	54	21	Sun
Chicago	20	14	Fly
Cincinnati	29	16	Fly
Cleveland	27	19	Fly

City	Hi	Lo	W
Colorado Sprgs.	46	20	PCldy
Columbia, SC	57	26	Sun
Columbus, GA	55	29	Sun
Columbus, OH	25	17	Fly
Concord, NH	38	22	Cldy
Corpus Christi	77	54	PCldy
Dallas	59	38	Sun
Dayton	23	15	Fly
Daytona Beach	73	39	Tstm
Denver	46	21	Sun
Des Moines	23	14	Sun
Detroit	28	17	Fly
Duluth	10	1	PCldy
El Paso	63	36	Sun
Elkins	32	15	Fly
Enid	28	21	Fly
Eugene	53	33	Cldy
Evansville	35	18	Fly
Fairbanks	29	11	Snow
Fargo	11	5	Sun
Flagstaff	48	12	Sun
Flint	26	17	Fly
Fort Smith	52	29	Sun
Fort Wayne	27	14	Fly
Fresno	63	40	Sun
Goodland	53	22	Sun
Grand Junction	47	22	Sun
Grand Rapids	25	15	Fly
Great Falls	39	20	PCldy
Green Bay	18	8	Fly
Greensboro, NC	49	26	Sun
Harrisburg	37	23	Fly

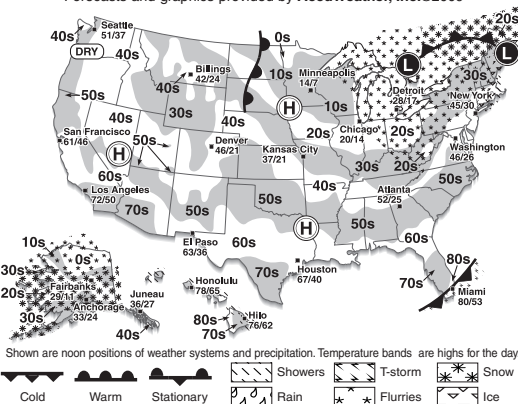
City	Hi	Lo	W
Harford	44	25	Cldy
Helena	43	19	Cldy
Honolulu	78	65	PCldy
Houston	67	40	Sun
Huntsville	48	25	PCldy
Indianapolis	26	14	Fly
Jackson, MS	53	28	Sun
Jacksonville	65	32	Tstm
Juneau	36	27	Cldy
Kansas City	37	21	Sun
Key West	79	63	PCldy
Knoxville	40	22	Fly
Lake Charles	67	38	Sun
Lansing	24	16	Fly
Las Vegas	64	41	Sun
Lexington	31	16	Fly
Lincoln	32	16	Sun
Little Rock	56	31	Sun
Los Angeles	72	50	Sun
Louisville	35	20	Fly
Lubbock	60	30	Sun
Macon	60	27	Sun
Madison	13	9	Fly
Medford	59	32	PCldy
Memphis	50	28	Sun
Miami	80	53	PCldy
Midland	63	36	Sun
Milwaukee	19	12	Fly
Minneapolis	14	7	PCldy
Mobile	64	33	Sun
Montgomery	55	28	Sun
Nashville	39	25	Fly

City	Hi	Lo	W
New Orleans	65	40	Sun
New York City	45	30	PCldy
Newark	47	26	PCldy
Norfolk	51	27	Sun
North Platte	46	16	PCldy
Oklahoma City	55	33	Sun
Omaha	26	17	Sun
Orlando	74	42	Tstm
Paducah	39	18	Fly
Pendleton	45	30	PCldy
Peoria	19	14	Fly
Philadelphia	46	26	PCldy
Phoenix	73	47	Sun
Pittsburgh	32	18	Fly
Pueblo	52	18	Sun
Raleigh	52	26	Sun
Rapid City	39	19	Cldy
Reno	51	24	Sun
Richmond	52	25	Sun
Roanoke	45	26	PCldy
Rochester	37	22	Fly
Rockford	17	9	Fly
Sacramento	59	39	PCldy
St. Louis	34	20	PCldy
St. Thomas	83	72	Sun
Salem, OR	53	32	Cldy
Salt Lake City	43	25	Sun
San Angelo	64	38	Sun

City	Hi	Lo	W
San Antonio	73	48	Sun
San Diego	68	51	Sun
San Francisco	61	46	PCldy
San Jose	64	42	Sun
San Juan, PR	81	71	Sun
Santa Fe	50	22	Sun
St. St. Marie	22	12	Fly
Savannah	60	31	Cldy
Seattle	51	37	Cldy
Shreveport	62	38	Sun
Sioux City	26	14	Sun
Sioux Falls	20	11	Sun
South Bend	23	15	Fly
Spokane	44	26	Cldy
Tampa	70	44	Tstm
Toledo	29	17	Fly
Topeka	40	22	Sun
Tucson	71	42	Sun
Tulsa	54	29	Sun
Tupelo	49	24	Sun
Waco	64	39	Sun
Washington, DC	46	26	PCldy
W. Palm Beach	80	50	PCldy
Wichita	46	28	PCldy
Wichita Falls	59	37	Sun
Wilkes-Barre	41	21	Fly
Wilmington, DE	46	22	PCldy
Yakima	51	28	PCldy

THE UNITED STATES THURSDAY

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc.©2009



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

For complete and up-to-the-minute worldwide weather information, go to www.stripes.com and check out the AccuWeather forecast.



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- Please spell out each word. No abbreviations.
- Item prices must be listed.
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Announcements

040

Individuals placing classified advertising should use discretion in concluding the sale of their property. Not all potential buyers are reputable or honest. S&S suggests that you take precautions to ensure that potential buyers are reputable and will be able to fulfill the terms of the sale. S&S is not liable for the contractual relationship between sellers and buyers of merchandise advertised in the newspaper or on the web site.

Your Hometown Newspaper
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Autos for Sale

141

Yokosuka - 1995 Silver BMW 750Li, for sale!!!! Left hand drive/ enclosed subwoofer with 2 12" speakers/ new touch screen stereo DVD system great upgrades! Must sell fast! \$10,000 or best offer! Please contact: 08066632185 / 08066632191

Yokosuka - 2000 Saturn SC, 65,000 KM, JCI through September 2009. Base Inspection through September 2009. In Outstanding Operational Condition. Exterior in Outstanding Condition. Interior Very Clean. Oil & Filter Changed 1/2009. Tires Rotated 1/2009. Blue Exterior. \$1,900.00 or Best Offer. Call Cindy at 080-676-45187

Yokosuka - 2007 Silver Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo-less than 10,000 miles in perfect condition for sale! This SUV is left hand drive with a state of the art Navigation system and will come with a low profile road rack, custom mats and so much more! Too much to mention here. Only asking \$19,500 OBO. For this mint condition Jeep Grand Cherokee. You won't get a better price anywhere else! Call Ronnie at 090-324-7187 or email surferjapan@gmail.com for further details.

Yokota - 1989 Toyota Surf, 4X4. Automatic, power windows/locks/A/C. JCI till Sep 2009. Runs great/good solid truck. \$1500.00 OBO. Call Rick at 225-5855 or 080-3708-3257.

Yokota - 96 Nissan Cefiro JCI Exp Feb 2011. \$1,800. Please e-mail if interested frankie.chini@hotmail.com ann.stanford@yokota.af.mil

Autos for Sale

141

Yokota - 1992 Honda Civic. Runs well. Plenty of room. Automatic transmission. Comes with new antenna and new radio. Selling to pay off debt. JCI till 10/10. \$1200 obo. Email: John_niola@hotmail.com

Yokota - 1992 Nissan Gloria. JCI. Good 'til Dec 2010. \$2000 OBO. Price is very negotiable. Just make me an Offer! CALL Craig at (623)-734-9619 or cell 080384577823 or Jesse at (305) -537-5240. Cell 08035184639

Yokota - 1997 Mazda MPV \$2500 JCI Oct 2010. Exterior: white & tan, mileage: 76,200 km. Interior: gray, extras: auto entry, auto start, new sound system, good condition tires, tinted windows. Alternate e-mail: chris7452@aol.com

Yokota - 1999 Mitsubishi Chariot Grandis V6 Royal. No Scratches or Dents. Non Smoker. 7 Passenger Van, Strong V6, 3,000cc GDI Engine JCI 24 Jan 2011. \$4,500 obo. Contact 1-801-983-0802

Yokota - '95 Honda Civic PCSing must sell!!! 35K km. CD player. Great for driving around base. Very clean! JCI Aug 09. \$1000 obo. Contact 5093430778

Yokota - Domani for sale It's a 4 door. black. runs well, never had a problem with it 20 dollars will fill your tank up not a gas guzzler at all. Price is so low due to JCI in 3 months. JCI May 2009. \$500. Contact 512-275-4912

Announcements

040

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Autos for Sale

141

Yokota - 1990 Nissan Fairlady Z Twin Turbo / automatic JCI. 27 July 2009 19,000 km (Re-Built Motor) T-Tops (Do Not Leak) Stitch 17" rims Teflon Fully Adjustable Suspension Stilled Front & Rear Sway Bars Cosco Tension Rods Cosco Camber Adjusters Stilled HICAS Elimination Kit HKS Turbo-Timer Fluidize Transmission Cooler Howe Radiator 3" Apexi Cat back Exhaust New Tires Hawk Performance Brake Pads Momo Steering Wheel Silencer for Exhaust (JCI Purposes) Kenwood CD Player w/ Remote Asking \$1500 OBO Please call 090-2826-1505

Yokota - 1993 Nissan Cedric - 4door. JCI will expire Nov. 2010 nearly 2 full yrs JCI! Great Car! Runs great, good shape P/W, P/L, P/S, Good A/C and heat Also, in dash touch screen CD/DVD/MP3 player. Asking \$2200 OBO Call 1.313.347.1017 if interested, first reasonable offer gets it!

Yokota - 1996 Honda Odyssey (Excellent Condition) Excellent condition once owned by Japanese owners. Japanese Owner does not want to deal with JCI so deciding to sell it. Went through a Super tune up including Timing belt changed Have list done by garage but in Japanese. Van does need JCI but should pass JCI inspection with no problem. Please call 080-1373-2338 or leave number on e-mail to come check the Van out. Wants 100,000 yen (Dollar to Yen should be 10000)

Yokota - 1996 Nissan Sunny Sedan - 4-door, silver, automatic w/ 6-CD changer. Very reliable! PCSing soon JCI until July 2009. Asking \$850 OBO Please Call 623-734-9626 or email scplscs@yahoo.com

Yokota - Really great car. 1996 Nissan March, JCI thru March 2010. Cold air, hot heat, new tires, runs great. Looks good. \$1200 OBO. 904-229-0520 or 090-6564-1665.

Autos for Sale

141

Yokota - 1997 Honda Ascot (accord) super clean! Very Low Miles! Very Good Condition! Non-smoker Interior grey/Exterior Dark Green Metallic. Automatic Trans. Power windows, door locks, & side windows. Ice Cold A/C. Tires less than 1 year old JCI until March 2010 Very Dependable! Everything Works! Very Clean! Asking \$2200 OBO Must Sell PCSing Soon. Available 7 Feb. 09 Home 1-904-229-0520 Duty 2 2 5 - 3 6 2 1 (3 6 2 2) Cell#090-6476-5892

Yokota - 2000 Subaru B4 Twin Turbo 2 Years JCI 2000 Subaru Legacy 2.0 Twin Turbo All Wheel Drive (great for winter time) 2000 Subaru Legacy 2.0 Twin Turbo JCI until November 2010 Manual Transmission Tinted Windows Push Start Engine Intake/Exhaust Turbo Timer/ Air Fuel Ratio/ Valve Control/ Boost Controller Coil Over Suspension Brand new Pirelli tires Street/Snow Asking \$3800 firm Please call 425-274-4379 or email dani_co3@yahoo.com

Yokota - 94 Nissan Cedric GREAT Car, nice A/C, DVD player, CD player, new lights inside and out, 760W AMP two 12 inch subs, 18 inch spinning rims AKA spinners which are "Optional" if bought extra set of 4 chrome 18 inch rims great condition. JCI expire April 2009, asking \$1200 cell number 090-9808-4255

Yokota - '94 Toyota Sourer w/ full body kit; 18" rims 7"LCD monitor; 18000 miles wheel only problem is JCI due Mar 09 and there's a crack on the windshield w/c will cost around \$300-400. Asking \$1200 Need to sell ASAP work # 225-5234 (days)

Yokota - Japan - Sell ASAPI 2000 Subaru B4 Turbo Manual 2yrs JCI 2000 Subaru Legacy 2.0 Twin Turbo All Wheel Drive (great for winter time) JCI until November 2010 Manual Transmission Tinted Windows Push Start Engine Intake/Exhaust Turbo Timer/ Air Fuel Ratio/ Valve Control/ Boost Controller Coil Over Suspension Brand new Pirelli tires Street/Snow JCI expires Nov. 2010 Asking \$3800 Please call 425-274-4379

Yokota - Team Geki JZX90 Turbo V (Fully Loaded). JCI October 2009. JPY8000.00. E-mail bluefactory2@yahoo.com

Yokota - Car for Sale: 1994 Cadillac Seville, 20" inch rhymes, heated seats, JCI is good, American side, good interior, leather seats, air conditioning and heating. PW/P/L asking for \$5000.00 or best offer. If interested please call 080-5094-7940, or if you would like a pic please email me at atsifushy06@yahoo.com.

Motorcycles

164

Yokota - 1993 Kawasaki ZXR 400. Bike is in very good condition. Will have 2 years of JCI by the end of this week. Very fun in the mountains on the twisties. Bike has practically brand new tires. I ride to work every day. Fires right up no matter how cold it is. JCI Feb 2011 \$3000. Contact 1-615-345-8820

Yokota - 2004 GSX-R 600 K-4 Edition, yellow, mint condition, aftermarket full exhaust (Fish Bone), Online steering damper, custom seat w/R embler, headlight cover, new tires, JCI August 2010, very low mi, \$7900. Call 080-3204-2513 or email aladdn002@yahoo.com for PICS.

Auto Parts

180

Yokota - 4 Chrome Rims w/tires (205 45 R16) \$375 obo. Call 080-3204-2513 or 813-200-9379

Yokota - For Sale - \$400 OBO, 4ea, 18" wheels & tires, 6 Spoke, Alum universal wheels, Bridgestone Potenza G3, 225/45R18 Tires, Call Larry 080-5050-0179

Baby Items

200

Atsugi - Instep Safari double jogging stroller Red/grey. Swivel front wheel that will also lock for jogging. Individual reclining seats, parent console rain cover, Sasha's kiddies sun/wind/bug cover with UV protection, 50lbs per seat, folds for storage, snack trays that attach to the belly bar (brand new) \$175 OBO. email: tiffitt@hotmail.com

Yokota - Japan - Baby Girl clothing 6-12 months. spring-summer I am selling our daughter's used clothes, all in excellent condition. There are over 50 pieces, including a winter Jacket, Garters, Oshkosh, gap etc. Please email me if you have any questions. Asking \$55 Please call 858-368-8874 or email manjupearson@hotmail.com Thanks for Looking!

Yokota - Japan - Gently Used Graco Bouncer Travel - Lite Bouncer with Bopit - Rittenhouse Model (Retailers for \$129.99). Great Condition Asking \$50 OBO Please call 717-265-2657 or email rashid.ashley@gmail.com

Baby Items

200

Yokota - Japan - Playtex Embrace Breast Pump a powerful hospital-grade pump for long-term, daily use, durable motor. 25 combinations of speed and suction let you customize your own pumping rhythm. Dual action massage and suction clinically shown to increase prolactin for greater milk supply. Soft air cushion minimizes tugging and stretching of nipples for pumping comfort Closed system protects milk from bacteria and germs and prevents back-up Works with most reusable and disposable bottles. Includes AC/DC Adapter, Car Adapter and Tote Bag. Except A vent and The First Years bottles This pump has only been used for about 3 week. Unfortunately I was unable to produce enough milk. It comes from a smoke and pet free home. Asking \$140 Please call 407-373-1342

Bicycles

220

Yokota - 2 Mountain Bikes. Excellent condition. Kept indoors. \$85. Call 080-3204-3213 or 813-200-9379.

Books

250

Yokota - Japan - Anthropology of Language An introduction to linguistic anthropology. Written by: Harriet Joseph Ottenheimer Asking \$30 OBO Please call 3145583409 or email lily-481@hotmail.com

Yokota - Japan - Cultural Anthropology, 12th (IE) Written By: Conrad Philip Kottak, Asking \$40 OBO Please call 3145583409 or email lily-481@hotmail.com

Yokota - Japan - The Western Experience, 9th Volume with CD-ROM and By Charners, Hanawalt, Rabb, Woloch and Grew Asking \$40 Please call 3145583409 or email lily-481@hotmail.com

Yokota - Japan - Understanding Computers Today & Tomorrow, 11th By: Morley & Parker, Hunt & Halvorsen, Asking \$60 OBO Please call 3145583409 or email lily.481@hotmail.com

Cellular Phones

280

Yokota - Japan - Cell Phone Used, but still working cell phones. Soft Bank preferably. Please call 8019830672

Clothing

320

Yokota - Japan - AEROPOSTALE Coat Size XL Tan in color very warm. I bought it, but I just wasn't into it. I'd like to wear it posted this afternoon. I paid \$60 +shipping. I am asking \$30 OBO. Please call 3145583462 Thanks.

Clothing

320

Yokota - Japan - Hannah Montana girls shoes size 1 1/2 Brand new, tags still on and in box paid originally \$19.99 for them. My daughter doesn't fit in them. Very cute, black with silver stars and a guitar on top Asking \$12 Please call 210-881-4403

Computers

360

Yokota - I am selling a GA-MA78GM-S2H AM2+/AM3 motherboard. I purchased it in the summer. It is in like new condition and tested fully working. It will fit any AM2+ or AM3 AMD CPU and features a 780G chipset. \$50 obo. Call 09064856797.

Yokota - Japan - computer chair Computer chair in excellent condition. Adjustable height and arms. No stain, looks brand new, only used a few months. Asking \$300 Need to pick up. Thanks! for looking grey color. Asking \$30 Please call 858-368-6874

Yokota - Japan - IMAC for Sale Apple IMac OSX for sale - in great condition and works perfectly. We simply bought an upgraded version, includes speakers, mouse and keyboard. Asking \$100 Please contact Tim at trim117@yahoo.com or at home at 623-734-9625.

Yokota - The Print Shop Deluxe (Version 22) Opened the box and never got around to using the program. \$49.00 at the box, selling for \$20. Jason Home 08032519808

Yokota - Wooden Computer Desk A Tan computer desk a few scratches but still in very good condition. \$65.00 OBO. Call 901-273-9956

Furniture

510

Atsugi - Japan - Ashley "Durrapple" Loveseat like new, no stains or spots, smoke free, \$250 OBO call 284-7018 Candace or Ryan

Yokota - Bunk Beds A Tan wooden bunk bed you can either stack them on top of each other or side by side. Fair Condition. \$65.00 OBO Call 901-273-9956

Yokota - Dining room table A circle dining room table with two chairs. It is the same exact tables at the Bxira. A few scratches but good condition. \$65.00 OBO. Call 901-273-9956

Yokota - End tables, rocking chair, and more Two glass top end tables \$10 each; platform rocking chair good condition; \$25; swivel chair for \$20; small heater for \$5; upright vacuum \$20. \$20.00. 6143584904.

Furniture

510

Yokota - Japan - Bed frame and dresser Heavy, sturdy, King or Queen Size bed frame. Can be set to either size. Can be mounted to a head board. \$25 Can send picture if needed. I have 2 of the five Drawer dressers. They are solid wood in a white wash finish. They measure 40" H x 25 1/2" W x 15" D. \$40 each Call Jessie @ 813-200-9370 or e-mail (mjjab@yahoo.com) to come and see. Please call 813-200-9370

Yokota - Japan - Recliner Bought this recliner 1 month ago today. We sold our old one last month because we were getting this new but we don't have much room in our living room because of the living room set we bought. TV, couches, coffee table plus recliner are just too big for this place. The chair has probably only been sat in 5 times- Almost new, no stains, pet-free & smoke-free home. It is dark brown. It has compartments under both armrests for storage AND cup holders. This is the serious man chair! Paid \$250, will take \$175 Must be able to pick up. Please email rkjnsingleton@yahoo.com

Yokota - Japan - Rosewood Bar w/ 2 Stools Dragon Design, has pullout wine holders, and a pullout bar table. Asking \$1500 OBO If you are interested please call 3145583409 or email lily-481@hotmail.com

Yokota - Japan - Rosewood Corner Chair Flower Design, Space saver, very sturdy. Asking \$150 OBO if you are interested Please email lily-481@hotmail.com

Yokota - Japan - Rosewood Telephone Chair Double Happiness Design, has storage compartments, included glass for side table. If you are interested asking \$600 OBO Please call 3145583409 or email lily-481@hotmail.com

Yokota - Japan - Sofa for sale! Light beige micro suede couch. 2 years old. In great condition, easy to clean we got all new cushions when we arrived at Yokota and have no room for it anymore, asking \$150. Must move yourself Please call 1-407-373-1371

Yokota - Japan - sofa, table w/chairs, carpets, book shelves recently arrived to Yokota and need sofa table w/chairs, carpets, and bookshelves dressers. Price negotiable Please call 210-547-9918 or email thepamperedstamper4u@yahoo.com

Yokota - Japan - Still in need of twin bed: Looking for basic twin frame/rails and mattress. Asking reasonable price. Please call 648-957-9511 or email baldobunch04@yahoo.com

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Furniture 510

Yokota, Japan - Twin bed, Mattress, Nightstand and Corner set White wire frame, twin bed and night stand, Pillow top mattress and box spring-like new. Comforter set with bed skirt, pillow sham and twin sheet set. Perfect for kid's bedroom all for \$250. Please call 949-258-6899 or email mcdonald3@gmail.com for pictures

Yokota, Japan - Want Bed/Other Furniture recently PCS'd here and we desperately need a few things! Top priority: A Twin or Full Size Bed for my daughter! Needed badly Top priority: A Twin or Full Size Bed for my daughter! Needed badly Sofa/Recliner—we have neither! Queen size box springs and bed frame (nothing fancy but we are sleeping on a mattress on the floor!) I will need these items delivered! My husband can help load. I will consider renting a truck to pick up if the price is low enough double tandem stroller—I'm expecting! Also if anyone has any house wares they don't need—we do! Please email xbrandyx82@yahoo.com

Home Electronics 570

Atsugi - Slightly used Playstation 2 Dance Factory mat with game. Only used twice. Asking \$30.00 obo. Please e-mail dguerni@yahoo.com OR call Deb at 264-7499.

Yokota - AMAZING LEAPSTER SET W/ 7 GAMES. \$120/make offer. Games have different difficulty levels and applies from 3 - 10 year olds. Over \$280 worth of stuff. Games alone are \$15-30 each!! Barely used, still in its original box complete with manuals. Conatct 702-946-5985

Home Electronics 570

Yokota - Brand New Nintendo Wii. Never opened...if interested call (949)258-6866 or 080 5688-6325 250.00 OBO

Yokota, Japan - 19 inch television it is now in my sons room we are PCS'ing so it must go along with the VCR and DVD player asking for \$60.00 OBO Please call 4044784189

Yokota, Japan - Brand New Nintendo Wii I never opened Nintendo Wii Asking \$320 if interested please give me a call 9492586866 or email sharon4college@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Disney Sing It for Wii I received Disney Sing IT for the Wii for Christmas but not what I thought it was. Game has never been opened and includes microphone. This game is basically Karaoke with Disney songs from Hannah Montana, Wizards of Waverly Place, etc. Asking \$30 Please call 214-261-6346 or email morgan18@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - JVC Everio Hard Disk Camcorder w/30GB and 32x zoom. Great video camera Light weight and very small Easy to use and fits in most bags or purse. Includes one battery, usb and video cables and bag asking \$200 Please email gneraslan@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Samsung 55-Inch Projection HD-Ready TV needs a tune-up. The color is showing mainly greens & reds. Other than that, a great television Asking \$200 Please email topekargers@hotmail.com

Home Electronics 570

Yokota, Japan - Panasonic DMC-FZ50 10.1MP Digital Cam w/12x Opt Img Great camera for beginners and professional alike. The tilt screen works wonders. Included in the camera are two batteries, a charger and a bag. Asking \$500 Please email gneraslan@yahoo.com for more info please copy and paste the link below. http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/B000GHVZQ0/gadwords-20

Yokota, Japan - Wii Remote Controller/Nunchuk Silicone Case. Awesome Price. Great Bundle. Great for Gifts! 100% brand new high quality generic (non-OEM) For Nintendo Wii Remote Controller/Nunchuk Silicone Case. Color: Yellow, Black, Pink, Green, Blue, Red Quantity: 1 of each color Soft Skin-like feel fits comfortably in your hands and with anti-slip grip to prevent accidental dropping or throwing of your controls. The high quality silicon color skin provides protection of your controls for scratch, dirt, grease, and grip form accidental dropping or throwing your controls, and most of all, with the style! Unique design allows all buttons and slots easy to access without removing the protection skin. Washable! The skins are easy to remove Asking \$4 each Please email smuchyoooh@cyworld.com

Yokota - Philips 10.2" DVD Player. Brand new in box, never been used. Sells for 250\$ in stores. This unit will play almost anything. DVDs, CDs, memory cards and flash drives. The reason for selling it is I got it for Christmas but I already have another one. \$200 obo. Contact 08031783849

Yokota - Silver Ipod Shuffle. \$25.00 Call 901-273-9956.

Yokota - X-Box 360 Headset \$35.00. Call 614-358-4902

Apartment Unfurn 856

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Super clean, Internet Access available.
Security Deposit is \$650.
Email t_courtney212@yahoo.com.com

Home Electronics 570

Yokota - Selling Xbox games: \$3.00 each. Project Gotham Racing, SEGA GT 2002, AF Delta Storm, Brothers in Arms, Earned in Blood (live online enabled), Tom clancy's Splinter Cell Tom Clancy's Rainbow Six 3 (live online enabled). What a deal! Contact us now! My kids are trying to sell these so they can buy other games) Contact 901-273-9939

Jewelry 610

Yokota - Earrings for Sale!!!! Pave the way in these of the moment! Super-luxe jewels. Gold & Crystal Square, Dome Pave Earrings by CC Skye. For pierced ears. approx: 0.7" x 0.7". 125.00 or BO. Call 080-5186-5211

Jobs Offered 630

Health Technician - Navy seeks three full-time contract Health Technicians for U.S. Naval Hospital, Yokosuka. A certification as a medical assistance or prior experience as a Hospital Corpsman or Medic is required. Deadline for submission of solicitation package is on 27th Feb @ 1600. For details call Ms. Kobayashi FISC contracting at 243-6835 or 046-816-6835 Solicitation#: 06-Q-1309

Lost 670

Yokota, Japan - Did you find a black wallet Black ladies wallet w/ snap on 1 side and zipper on other last seen at Taiyo Jan 28 in the evening. Contains ID, driver's license and other personal items Please contact me, turn into Security Forces, or return to the Taiyo. Please call 12408455302

Yokota, Japan - Lost My Burt Orange Digital Camera I got a camera for Christmas, and it was my FAVORITE thing ever. And I misplaced it somewhere. I've retraced my steps, and its nowhere to be found. It has a memory card in it, full of pictures of me and my family and friends. If you have it, or know someone that does, I would appreciate it if you gave me a call on my cell (080-3459-1768) after 2:30pm on weekdays, or my home number (512) 275-4895. The camera in the picture is the one I'm looking for. Please, please let me know. Please call 512-275-4895

Outdoor Living 775

Yokota - Gas Grill with 2 propane tanks. \$75. Call 080-3204-2513 or 813-200-9379.

Pets 820

Sagamihara - Free rabbit. Comes with cage, food, etc. Please call 267-6802 or 080-3540-6107, or email 458winmag@gmail.com

Yokota - Free to a good home, 2 adult, male cats. Very affectionate and loving. I am PCS'ing and want to make sure they have a good home. 09060438502

Pets 820

Yokota, Japan - Old Friend in need of a new home Max is a Scottish terrier mix who is well known in the Yokota community. He is about 8 years old and very shy. He needs a loving/quiet home with older children. Our children love him very much but he has cataracts and our small children move too quickly for him. He keeps to himself and is very clean (house trained) but does need to be groomed every few months. He does well on a leash and loves to be inside as well as enjoys time outside. Again he is old and needs a loving family who can accommodate him and his limited vision. Please call 214-261-6346 or email morgan18@hotmail.com

Zama - Chihuahua puppy for sale. Male, 3 months old. Beautiful markings. Pictures available Email 458winmag@gmail.com or call 080-3540-6107

Zama - Free Six Saltwater tropical fish and live rock. Must have your own tank. Call for more info 267-6253

Photography 830

Yokota - Canon EF lenses I have the following for sale! Canon ef 28 F/2.8 225, Canon 28-135 f3.5 to 5.6 IS 200. All three are in great condition. 70-200 comes with lens hood. Upgraded to new L lenses so no need in my bag any more. Contact 08037553434

Yokota, Japan - SONY DSCF717 camera excellent condition, pretty & easy to use. Comes with memory stick, leather case, and power cord Will trade for a Casio ex-s10R or smaller camera, asking \$200 OBO Jason Cell-08032519808 Home-713-490-0578

Yokota, Japan - Tokina AT-X 80-200mm f/2.8 for EOS Tokina AT-X 80-200mm f/2.8 Lens for Canon EOS Body. This is a well used lens, but has plenty of life left in it. The only reason I am selling is I don't really use it as much as my wide angle and Macro Lenses. Asking \$350 OBO Please email jaredhodge915@hotmail.com

Photography 830

Yokot - SONY DSCF717 CAMERA LIKE NEW Excellent condition. Pretty Easy to use. Comes with memory sticks, leather case, power cord, usb cord. Or trade for a pocket size camera. \$ 175 OBO. JASON HOME 713 490 0578, CELL 08032519808

Homes for Sale - US 864

PCS'ing to DYESS AFB, Texas? House for sale.125K 3bdrms, 2bths, 2 living areas, large kitchen, 1 workshop, 1 storage shed, fenced. Quiet neighborhood, minutes from Dyess. Shopping areas, downtown Abilene, MLSP#: 11143632, further info & pics: gozer87@yahoo.com. Move-in ready: 20March09

Sporting Goods 980

Yokota - Edge 490 Recumbent Exercise Bike \$125.00. Located on the East Side, so you'll need a way to get it to your home. I cannot deliver, though it should fit in most trucks with the lid bunged down. Contact 404-478-4611

Yokota, Japan - Taylor made R7 Irons 4-SW For sale used. Regular shaft with upgraded grips (Mid-size Decodar meter). Clubs was bought new and was used for about a year. Please contact me for further inquiries at 080-3724-7319 ask for John. Asking \$325

Yokota, Japan - Tony Gazelle Edge Gazelle's unsurpassed range of motions lets you go from a slow walk to a full run with no sudden stops. You can achieve a challenging aerobic workout without sacrificing your knees due to its low impact nature. The Edge holds up to 250 pounds and comes complete with an easy-to-use, 5-function workout computer providing immediate feedback on speed, distance, time, and approximate calories burned folds up for easy storage. Never used, but has been put together. Asking \$30 Please call 6237349653

Sporting Goods 980

Yokota, Japan - Women's Golf Clubs/Bag/Glove Everything you need to get started! Golden Bear Set of Golf Clubs (whole set included in price), new golf bag, as pictured, glove, covers for clubs Used 5 times or less \$150 OBO. Looks brand new! Asking \$150 OBO Please call 717-265-2657 or email rashid.ashley@gmail.com

Video 1020

Atsugi - Disney VHS tapes. Over 30 titles. Please e-mail for titles. Buy 1 or the whole lot. Make an offer. dguerni1@yahoo.com OR call Deb at 264-7499.

Miscellaneous 1040

Timeshare for Sale, Orlando, FL. Sleeps twelve. Spa, pools, exercise room, restaurants, tennis courts, babysitting, Disney Land is 5 miles, and many extras. May use worldwide Price is \$13,000. If interested please call 01086856113 (Osan) or e-mail at tori_tyme@hotmail.com

Yokota - Boxed DVD set. 24 Hours - Complete Seasons 1-5 Orig. \$220 -- us for \$130 whole set. Planet Earth -- 5-Disc exploration from of seas, forest, mountains etc. -- shots from Discovery and National Geographic Orig \$65 -- us for \$25 whole set. Friends --Complete Seasons 1-10 -- I hate to see this go but am trying to get rid of excess wt for PCS move. Orig. \$249 -- us for \$170. Contact 702-946-5985

Yokota - ER Seasons 1-6 \$60. Only watched one time. Excellent condition. Paid at least \$30 per season. Contact 615-345-8867.

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Sports on AFN

Thursday

AFN-Sports, 3 a.m.-NBA: Atlanta at L.A. Lakers (dld).

AFN-Xtra, 9 a.m.-NHL: N.Y. Islanders at N.Y. Rangers.

AFN-Sports, 10 a.m.-NBA: Orlando at New Orleans.

AFN-Xtra, noon-NHL: Los Angeles at Anaheim.

AFN-Sports, 12:30 p.m.-NBA: L.A. Lakers at Golden State.

AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.-College basketball: Penn State at Illinois (dld).

AFN-Sports, 7 p.m.-College basketball: Providence at Louisville (dld).

AFN-Sports, 11 p.m.-Cycling: Tour of California, Stage 4 (dld).

Friday

AFN-Sports, 3 a.m.-NBA: New Jersey at Dallas (dld).

AFN-Xtra, 9 a.m.-College basketball: Duke at St. John's.

AFN-Sports, 10 a.m.-NBA: San Antonio at Detroit.

AFN-Xtra, 11 a.m.-College basketball: Wisconsin at Indiana.

AFN-Sports, 12:30 p.m.-NBA: Boston at Utah.

AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.-College basketball: Xavier at UNC-Charlotte (dld).

AFN-Sports, 7 p.m.-College basketball: Rutgers at Villanova (dld).

AFN-Sports, 11 p.m.-Cycling: Tour of California, Stage 5 (dld).

All times are Japan and Korea Standard Time; (dld) indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

Boxing

Fight schedule

Feb. 20

At Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Jesus Gonzales, Phoenix, vs. Richard Gutierrez, Miami, 10, light middleweights.

Feb. 21

At Madison Square Garden, New York, Miguel Cotto, Puerto Rico, vs. Michael Jennings, England, 12, for the vacant WBO welterweight title.

At Youngstown, Ohio, Kelly Pavlik, Youngstown, Ohio, vs. Marco Antonio Rubio, Mexico, 12, for Pavlik's WBC-WBO middleweight titles.

At Guadalajara, Mexico, Saul Alvaraz, Mexico, vs. Euri Gonzalez, Dominican Republic, 12, for Gonzalez's WBO Latino welterweight title; Eduardo Escobedo, Mexico, vs. Daniel Lomeli, Mexico, 10, featherweights.

Feb. 27

At Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, Hollywood, Fla., Glen Johnson, Miami, vs. Daniel Judah, Brooklyn, N.Y., 10, light heavyweights.

At the Prudential Center, Newark, N.J., Tomasz Adamek, Jersey City, N.J., Johnathan Banks, Detroit, 12, for Adamek's IBF cruiserweight title; Dionisio Miranda, Miami, vs. Giovanni Lorenzo, New York, 12, IBF middleweight eliminator.

Feb. 28

At the Toyota Center, Houston, Juan Manuel Marquez, Anaheim, Calif., vs. Juan Diaz, Houston, 12, for Diaz's IBO lightweight title; Chris John, Indonesia, vs. Rocky Juarez, Houston, 12, for John's WBA featherweight title.

At Oaxaca, Mexico, Roman Gonzalez, Nicaragua, vs. Francisco Rosas, Mexico, 12, for Gonzalez's WBA minimumweight title.

At Toluca, Mexico, Cesar Canchilla, Colombia, vs. Giovanni Segura, Bell Gardens, Calif., 12, for the interim WBA light flyweight title.

College hockey

NCAA Division I poll

MINNEAPOLIS — The top 20 teams in the NCAA Division I men's ice hockey poll, compiled by U.S. College Hockey Online, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Feb. 15 and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Boston University (44)	23-5-2	993	1
2. Notre Dame (6)	23-5-3	945	2
3. Michigan	23-9-0	905	4
4. Northeastern	20-8-2	815	3
5. Miami	18-4-5	783	7
6. Vermont	17-7-4	731	5
7. Yale	19-5-1	677	10
8. Denver	17-9-4	659	8
9. North Dakota	18-11-3	564	11
10. Princeton	18-7-0	550	9
11. Cornell	19-6-4	495	6
12. New Hampshire	14-9-5	420	12
13. Wisconsin	16-11-3	404	13
14. Minnesota	13-9-6	371	14
15. Minnesota-Duluth	15-9-6	256	17
16. Ohio State	18-10-4	211	16
17. Boston College	13-10-5	177	15
18. Colorado College	14-9-8	167	18
19. St. Cloud State	17-13-2	101	NR
20. St. Lawrence	16-11-3	92	NR

Others receiving votes: Dartmouth 91, Mass.-Lowell 21, RIT 18, Air Force 16, Nebraska-Omaha 12, Alaska 5, Colgate 5, Massachusetts 4, Alaska-Anchorage 2.

Monday's scores

EAST

Fitchburg St. 4, Franklin Pierce 2
Salve Regina 12, Worcester St. 8

College basketball

AP Men's Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Feb. 15, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Connecticut (66)	24-1	1,794	1
2. Oklahoma (4)	25-1	1,709	2
3. North Carolina (2)	23-2	1,676	3
4. Pittsburgh	23-2	1,589	4
5. Memphis	22-3	1,465	8
6. Michigan St.	20-4	1,443	9
7. Louisville	19-5	1,280	5
8. Wake Forest	19-4	1,217	7
9. Duke	20-5	1,048	6
10. Marquette	21-4	1,045	10
11. Missouri	22-4	1,041	17
12. Villanova	20-5	983	13
13. Clemson	20-4	939	12
14. Arizona St.	20-5	830	18
15. Kansas	20-5	651	16
16. Xavier	21-4	646	14
17. Gonzaga	19-5	599	19
18. Illinois	21-5	589	22
19. Penn St.-Beaver	19-5	582	20
20. UCLA	19-6	473	11
21. Butler	22-3	373	15
22. Washington	19-6	334	—
23. LSU	21-4	294	—
24. Syracuse	19-7	207	23
25. Dayton	23-3	194	—

Others receiving votes: Texas 81, Utah St. 72, Ohio St. 45, Arizona 38, California 34, Utah 34, West Virginia 26, Florida St. 18, Davidson 15, South Carolina 10, Minnesota 6, Boston College 5, Kentucky 5, Miami 2, Tennessee 2, Wisconsin 2, BYU 1, Robert Morris 1.

Monday's men's scores

EAST

Brooklyn 81, Yeshiva 70
Cabrini 86, Phila. Biblical 62
Canisius 69, Loyola, Md. 67
Centenary, N.J. 87, Marywood 84
Geneva 97, Winston-Salem 49
Lancaster Bible 92, Mount Aloysius 90
N.J. City 90, St. Joseph's, N.Y. 77
Pittsburgh 76, Connecticut 68
Rowan 67, Rutgers-Camden 52
Siena 75, Iona 60
St. Michael's 58, Concordia, N.Y. 55
St. Peter's 72, Marist 62

SOUTH

Anderson, S.C. 92, Lees-McRae 91
Armstrong Atlantic 64, Clayton St. 60
Belmont 76, S.C.-Upstate 56
Belmont Abbey 99, Mount Olive 91
Campbell 89, Jacksonville 83
Coll. of Charleston 91, Appalachian St. 87

Coppin St. 65, Florida A&M 62
Cumberland, Tenn. 74, Martin Methodist 68

Fisk 76, Knoxville 65
Florida Gulf Coast 61, Kennesaw St. 57
Georgia College 80, Columbus St. 72
Hampton 67, Winston-Salem 49
Jackson St. 62, Prairie View 61
Liberty 85, Coastal Carolina 82
Lipscomb 96, ETSU 91
MVU 81, Southern U. 73
Maryville, Tenn. 93, Covenant 76
Mid-Eastern Shore 83, Norfolk St. 81
Mercer 88, Stetson 80, OT
Morehouse 73, Tuskegee 71
Morgan St. 55, Bethune-Cookman 44
N. Carolina A&T 74, Delaware St. 73,

OT Northwood, Fla. 77, Palm Beach Atlantic 60

Presbyterian 63, VMI 57
Radford 80, Charleston Southern 71
S. Carolina St. 73, Howard 59
S.C.-Aiken 91, UNC-Pembroke 72
Texas Southern 64, Grambling St. 55
Trevecca Nazarene 123, Blue Mountain 100

MIDWEST

Benedictine, Kan. 79, Graceland, Iowa 64
Chicago St. 94, Longwood 84
Gannon 76, Lake Erie 41
Lindenwood 79, Avila 68
North Dakota 77, Hamline 60
William Jewell 74, Culver-Stockton 57
Wittenberg 80, Indiana-East 69

SOUTHWEST

Ark.-Pine Bluff 77, Alcorn St. 69
Oklahoma City 72, Mid-Am Christian 62
Paul Quinn 88, Langston 77
Texas A&M 81, Texas 66

FAR WEST

New Mexico St. 65, Louisiana Tech 63
Seattle 78, CS Bakersfield 54

AP Women's Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Feb. 15, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking:

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Connecticut (45)	25-0	1,125	1
2. Oklahoma	22-2	1,080	2
3. Auburn	25-1	999	5
4. Stanford	20-4	979	6
5. Baylor	21-3	942	7
6. California	20-3	865	3
7. Duke	20-3	800	4
8. Louisville	23-3	794	10
9. Maryland	21-4	787	11
10. North Carolina	22-4	785	8
11. Florida St.	21-5	665	14
12. Texas	19-5	652	13
13. Tennessee	18-6	538	15
14. Texas A&M	19-5	505	12
15. Florida	22-4	497	9
16. Kansas St.	20-3	408	20
17. Xavier	22-4	345	21
18. Vanderbilt	20-6	293	24
19. Pittsburg	18-5	281	19
20. Ohio St.	20-5	276	18
21. Iowa St.	18-6	263	16
22. S. Dakota St.	24-2	200	23
23. Virginia	19-7	169	17
24. Notre Dame	17-6	130	22
25. Arizona St.	19-6	76	—

Others receiving votes: Middle Tennessee 62, Bowling Green 26, Michigan St. 26, Villanova 23, DePaul 14, Va. Commonwealth 7, Gonzaga 6, Wis.-Green Bay 4, Marist 2, Utah 1.

Monday's women's scores

EAST

Bryant 71, Wagner 53
Cabrini 63, Richard Stockton 45
Cent. Connecticut St. 71, Fairfield Dickinson 69
Marywood 104, Centenary, N.J. 89
Monmouth, N.J. 50, Long Island U. 44
Mount Aloysius 75, Lancaster Bible 52
Mount St. Mary's, Md. 63, St. Francis, N.Y. 45

Rowan 69, Rutgers-Camden 67
Farmingdale 70, Yeshiva 35
St. Francis, Pa. 70, Quinnipiac 59
St. Peter's 55, Canisius 44

SOUTH

Anderson, S.C. 93, Lees-McRae 67
Belmont Abbey 75, Mount Olive 56
Boston College 71, Miami 64
Chattanooga 71, Appalachian St. 47
Clayton St. 90, Armstrong Atlantic 41
Coll. of Charleston 63, Georgia Southern 45
Coppin St. 57, Florida A&M 45
Cumberland, Tenn. 55, Martin Methodist 52

Delaware St. 68, N. Carolina A&T 66
Duke 62, Tennessee 54
Fisk 67, Knoxville 55
Gardner-Webb 74, UNC-Asheville 61
Grambling St. 69, Texas Southern 58
Hampton 65, Winston-Salem 48
Howard 73, S. Carolina St. 56
IUPUI 57, Centenary 55
Jacksonville 64, North Florida 56
Liberty 63, Winthrop 48
MVU 52, Southern U. 48
Mid-Eastern Shore 95, Norfolk St. 64
Morgan St. 69, Bethune-Cookman 64
Prairie View 58, Jackson St. 38

SOUTHWEST

Ark.-Pine Bluff 77, Alcorn St. 61
Langston 83, Paul Quinn 70
Oklahoma City 69, Mid-Am Christian 54
W. Illinois 63, Oral Roberts 58

College baseball

Monday's scores

SOUTH
Lynchburg 22, Maine-Presque Isle 2
Lynn 14, Paine 2
Rollins 9, Bentley 3
SOUTHWEST
NW Missouri 9-6, Arkansas Tech 7-1,
1st game, 11 innings

Tennis

Copa Sony Ericsson Colsanitas

Monday

At Club Campestre el Rancho Bogota, Colombia
Purse: \$220,000 (INTL.)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor

Singles

First Round
Petra Cetkovska, Czech Republic, def. Sandra Zahlavova, Czech Republic, 7-5, 6-2.
Edina Gallovits, Romania, def. Barbora Zahlavova Strycova, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-2.
Klara Zakopalova, Czech Republic, def. Romina Oprandi, Italy, 3-6, 7-6 (7), 7-6 (5).

Copa Telmex

Monday

At Buenos Aires Lawn Tennis Club Buenos Aires, Argentina
Purse: \$600,000 (WT500)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor

Singles

First Round
Juan Ignacio Chela, Argentina, def. Alberto Martin, Spain, 6-3, 6-2.
Brian Dabul, Argentina, def. Nicolas Devilder, France, 5-7, 7-5, 6-4.
David Nalbandian (1), Argentina, def. Nicolas Lapentti, Ecuador, 6-3, 6-3.
Juan Carlos Ferrero, Spain, def. Agustín Calleri, Argentina, 6-3, 6-4.

Open 13

Monday

At Palais des Sports Marseille, France
Purse: \$740,000 (WT250)
Surface: Hard-Indoor

Singles

First Round
Dmitry Tursunov, Russia, def. Teimuraz Gabashvili, Russia, 3-6, 6-2, 6-2.
Jan Hernych, Czech Republic, def. Kristof Vlieghe, Belgium, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4.
Mikhail Youzhny, Russia, def. Tomas Berdych (5), Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-7 (2), 6-1.
Feliciano Lopez (8), Spain, def. Ivan Ljubicic, Croatia, 3-6, 6-4, 7-5.

Dubai Championships

Tuesday

At Dubai Tennis Stadium Dubai, United Arab Emirates
Purse: \$2 million (Premier)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Singles

Second round
Serena Williams (1), United States, def. Sara Errani, Italy, 4-6, 6-2, 6-0.
Jelena Jankovic (3), Serbia, def. Monica Niculescu, Romania, 6-3, 6-2.
Venus Williams (6), United States, def. Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova, Russia, 6-0, 6-1.

Virginia Razzano, France, def. Dinara Safina (2), Russia, 6-4, 6-2.
Vera Zvonareva (5), Russia, def. Vera Dushevina, Russia, 6-0, 6-3.
Anabel Medina Garrigues (14), Spain, def. Alona Bondarenko, Ukraine, 6-2, 7-5.
Kaia Kanepi (16), Estonia, def. Sania Mirza, India, 7-5, 6-2.

Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, def. Ayumi Morita, Japan, 7-6 (1), 6-2.
Zheng Jie (13), China, def. Samantha Stosur, Australia, 3-6, 7-5, 7-5.
Camille Pin, France, def. Ursula Radwanska, Poland, 6-7, 7-5, 0-2, retired.

Alize Cornet (10), France, def. Julia Schurr, Germany, 6-1, 6-2.
Marion Bartoli (11), France, def. Francesca Schiavone, Italy, 7-6 (5), 3-6, 6-3.
Dominika Cibulkova (12), Slovakia, def. Tsvetana Pironkova, Bulgaria, 7-6 (5), 6-4.

Elena Dementieva (4), Russia, def. Sybille Bammer, Austria, 7-5, 6-2.

Monday

First Round
Ursula Radwanska, Poland, def. Agnieszka Radwanska (9), Poland, 6-4, 6-3.
Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, def. Stefanie Voegelé, Switzerland, 7-5, 6-2.
Monica Niculescu, Romania, def. Peng Shuai, China, 3-6, 7-5, 6-2.

Virginie Razzano, France, def. Kateryna Bondarenko, Ukraine, 7-5, 6-2.
Mariano Bartoli (11), France, def. Ai Sugiyama, Japan, 6-0, 4-6, 7-6 (6).
Francesca Schiavone, Italy, def. Casey Dellacqua, Australia, 6-1, 6-1.
Dominika Cibulkova (12), Slovakia, def. Sorana Cirstea, Romania, 6-4, 6-2.

Alona Bondarenko, Ukraine, def. Olga Govortsova, Belarus, 6-4, 6-3.
Samantha Stosur, Australia, def. Magdalena Rybarikova, Slovakia, 6-4, 6-3.

Anges Szavay, Hungary, def. Camille Pin, France, 2-6, 6-2, 6-3.
Ayumi Morita, Japan, def. Anna Chakvetadze (15), Russia, 7-5, 6-2.
Alize Cornet (10), France, def. Anna-Lena Groenefeld, Germany, 6-4, 6-1.

Anabel Medina Garrigues (14), Spain, def. Andreja Klepac, Slovakia, 6-3, 6-1.
Sania Mirza, India, def. Ekaterina Makarova, Russia, 7-5, 6-2.

Second Round
Elena Vesnina, Russia, def. Svetlana Kuznetsova (7), Russia, 6-4, 3-6, 6-0.
Anna Ivanovic (8), Serbia, def. Alisa Kleybanova, Russia, 7-5, 6-4.

RMK Championships

Monday

At The Racquet Club of Memphis Memphis, Tenn.
Purse: Men, \$1,225,500 (WT500); Women, \$220,000 (INTL.)
Surface: Hard-Indoor

Singles

First Round
Chris Guccione, Australia, def. Vince Spadea, United States, 7-6 (1), 7-6 (5).
Igor Kunitsyn, Russia, def. Igor Andreev (6), Russia, 1-6, 6-4, 6-3.
Dudi Sela, Israel, def. Bobby Reynolds, United States, 7-6 (4), 6-2.

Women

First Round
Lucie Safarova (3), Czech Republic, def. Melanie South, Britain, 6-2, 6-2.
Sabine Lisicki (6), Germany, def. Ekaterina Bychkova, Russia, 8-6, 6-3.
Michaela Krajicek, Netherlands, def. Alla Kudryavtseva (7), Russia, 6-1, 6-4.
Vania King, United States, def. Alexandra Stevenson, United States, 6-2, 7-6 (5).

Michelle Larcher de Brito, Portugal, def. Sofia Arvidsson, Sweden, 6-2, 6-0.
Pauline Parmentier (8), France, def. Julie Coin, France, 7-6 (6), 4-6, 6-1.
Stephanie Cohen-Aloro, France, def. Alexa Glatch, United States, 6-3, 6-3.
Anne Keothavong (4), Britain, def. Maria Elena Camerin, Italy, 3-6, 6-3, 6-1.
Victoria Azarenka (2), Belarus, def. Varvara Lepchenko, United States, 6-2, 6-2.

Deals

Monday's transactions

BASEBALL

American League
BOSTON RED SOX—Agreed to terms with OF Brad Wilkerson on a minor league contract.

National League

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Agreed to terms with OF Ryan Ludwick on a one-year contract.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association
<

Nicklaus thrills fans, pros with a rare appearance

By TIM REYNOLDS
The Associated Press

DELRAY BEACH, Fla. — Jack Nicklaus shifted his hips and cocked his head slightly, then swung and watched his opening drive sail perfectly down the first fairway.

"I'm done," he said.

He wasn't serious. But someday — perhaps soon — Nicklaus will hit his last shot before the eyes of still-adoring galleries. That's why hundreds of people

showed up Monday morning for an event benefiting a South Florida hospital.

They called it the Delray Dunes-Bethesda Hospital Pro-Am, the 40th and final time the event will be played. The field was a who's-who of golf: Among the pros taking part were Tom Watson, Gary Player, Lee Trevino, Mark O'Meara and Raymond Floyd.

And Nicklaus, whose playing schedule typically includes only father-son tournaments and Skins games, was the top draw of all.

"I think it's fantastic," Trevino said. "I mean, when's the last time you saw Jack Nicklaus play? And you may never see him again, you understand? It's special."

Tournament host Bob Murphy — the Champions Tour player and television commentator — has used the event to raise millions for charity in Palm Beach County. Trevino has given so much money from his appearances back to the hospital that a room there now bears his name, and some pros even call Murphy

to see if they're needed to play alongside 24-handicappers.

Some of those hackers, not surprisingly, started shanking everything when Nicklaus lined up with them on the driving range.

"To get a field assembled like this, well, I don't think you will ever see a Pro-Am like this put together ever again," Murphy said.

When Nicklaus took his first swings of the day to warm up, fans were lined up eight-deep behind him on the range. Never mind that at that very moment,

Watson was on the first tee, Trevino was playing the fourth hole and O'Meara was on the putting green — people were there to see the 18-time major winner, still considered by many the greatest to ever play golf.

The 69-year-old Nicklaus found the waves of adoration a bit puzzling.

"I don't know what they're going to see," Nicklaus said before teeing off. "They're just going to see an old man walk around a golf course and shoot 75, or more."

Post: Big plays from big players

POST, FROM PAGE 31

Other tall commodities, such as Daegu American's 6-7 senior Drew Snowden, helped the Warriors win two of four games in the boys Class A tournament at Misawa Air Base, including an 85-49 romp over Hokkaido International.

"He is a disruptive force when he plays inside. No one can stop him," coach Phillip Loyd said of Snowden, who had 20 points and four blocks against the Huskies.

Nile C. Kinnick's girls, who finished second in their pool at 2-1, count heavily on the play of 6-foot sophomore Shannon Jackson, who has averaged more than 20 points and 15 rebounds this season, including a campaign-high 36 rebounds in one game last month.

"She makes things happen in side that nobody else on the team makes happen," coach Henry Falk said. "She controls the inside. When she's in control, we do a great job."

Then there are the tall threats of the future, such as freshman Mike Jorgenson of Zama American's boys. Trojans coach Tom Allensworth spoke highly of the 6-5 transfer from Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

"He's got a big upside," Allensworth said, adding that Jorgenson works a lot on his own on playing with front and back to the basket. He has a "nice little 15-footer," Allensworth said, but says the frosh needs to work on his ballhandling skill. "He listens. He's very coachable."

Class AA boys treated to 'Jellybean'

The boys Class AA tournament got a special treat for its opening ceremony, held a day after the tournament started.

Joe "Jellybean" Bryant, Kobe Bryant's father and coach of the Japan pro basketball league's Tokyo Apache, spoke during the ceremony before Yokota High School's entire student body.

Appearing with Yokota's 374th Airlift Wing commander Col. John Newell and DODDS-Japan assistant district superintendent Dennis Rozzi, Bryant spoke to students about the benefits and opportunities that people have overseas. Bryant played seven seasons in Italy when Kobe was young.

"It was a great time," tournament director Tim Pujol said. "It was really, really nice."

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Phelps won't face charges for marijuana

Sheriff says there's not enough physical evidence

By SEANNA ADCOX
The Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Michael Phelps hardly emerged unscathed after a photo surfaced showing him smoking from a marijuana pipe: It cost him a major endorsement and a three-month competition suspension. But the Olympian said he's focused on swimming again now that he won't face drug charges.

A South Carolina sheriff said Monday that there wasn't enough physical evidence to charge the 14-time gold medalist.

Phelps said in a statement issued after the decision that he looks forward to diving back into the pool after the ordeal.

"For me, it's all about recognizing that I used bad judgment and it's a mistake I won't make again," the statement said. "For young people especially — be careful about the decisions you make. One bad decision can really hurt you and the people you care about."

The photo showed Phelps smoking from the pipe — known as a bong — at a party in November when he visited the University of South Carolina. However,

Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott said Phelps never admitted to smoking marijuana.

"He never said, 'I smoked marijuana.' He never confessed that," the sheriff said.

Holding a bong is not a crime, he said.

"They're sold in stores. We're kind of sending a double message," Lott said. "You can buy rolling papers at any convenience store in the world, but we're telling kids not to smoke dope."

Phelps has already suffered because of the photo — USA Swimming suspended him for three months in the wake of the photo, and Kellogg Co. said it would not renew its endorsement deal with him.

And while the swimmer won't face any charge, eight people were arrested during the investigation when a small amount of marijuana was found in raids on two homes. The bong was found in a car.

Seven people have been charged with simple possession of marijuana, which carries a maximum penalty of 30 days in jail or a \$575 fine. Another person was arrested for driving under suspension.

The sheriff, known for his

tough stance on drug crimes, said ignoring the photo would have sent a message of tolerance.

Phelps' "bad decision and the highly published photo placed me and the Richland County Sheriff's Department in a no-win situation. Ignore it and be criticized or address it and be criticized. I chose to do what was right," said Lott, a Democrat first elected in 1996.

Lott rose from patrol officer to captain of the narcotics division in the early 1990s. He was well-known in the county for wearing stylish suits like the drug agents on "Miami Vice" and driving a Porsche seized from a drug dealer.

The sheriff said the investigation involved two narcotics officers that logged 25 hours over about a week. He said the house where the November party took place and another suburban home near Columbia had previously been investigated for drugs.

His investigation was criticized in newspaper editorials, on talk shows and by defense attorneys who questioned whether the sheriff was being overzealous because of Phelps' celebrity status.

Even if the sheriff had the evidence needed, he acknowledged

he could not force Phelps to return to South Carolina to face a misdemeanor possession charge.

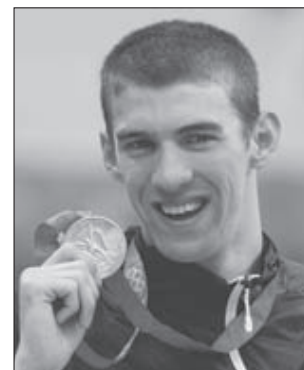
One of the attorneys representing the three students arrested said the accused were all in their early 20s. Attorney Dick Harpootlian said police kicked in the doors with guns drawn during the raids and found less than a cigarette's worth of marijuana in the house where the party was held. The other raid netted about four or five cigarettes' worth, Harpootlian said.

The lawyer expects his clients to either have the charges dismissed or for them to get a conditional discharge, which allows an offender to avoid punishment as long as they comply with certain conditions for six months and stay out of trouble.

The photo surfaced in the British tabloid News of the World on Feb. 1. The swimmer, who won a record eight gold medals at the Beijing Games, never disputed its authenticity.

Lott said the person who took the photo sold it for \$100,000. He would not identify the photographer or say how he knew the amount.

The party occurred nearly



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

The sheriff in the South Carolina county where Phelps was photographed smoking from a marijuana pipe said he won't be charging swimmer Michael Phelps because there wasn't enough physical evidence.

three months after the Olympics while Phelps was taking a break from training.

This isn't the first embarrassing episode for Phelps after an Olympic triumph. In 2004, a few months removed from winning six gold and two bronze medals in Athens, the swimmer was arrested on a drunken driving charge at age 19. He pleaded guilty and apologized for the mistake.

Spring training

A-Rod says he took over-the-counter substance

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Alex Rodriguez offered new details Tuesday about his performance-enhancing drug use, saying his cousin injected him with an over-the-counter substance to gain an energy boost.

The New York Yankees star said using the banned drug that he said he obtained from the Dominican Republic was a "stupid mistake."

"I knew we weren't taking Tic Tacs," said Rodriguez, who was joined at the head table with Yankees general manager Brian Cashman and manager Joe Girardi.

The three-time AL MVP and baseball's highest-paid player met the media 10 days after Sports Illustrated reported that he tested positive in 2003.

Rodriguez started his news conference by reading from a prepared statement. At the end, he paused for 37 seconds — a dramatic break in which he looked side to side, blinked several times and took a sip of water — then finally turned to his teammates and said "thank you."

Sitting in the front row were Derek Jeter, Andy Pettitte, Mariano Rivera and Jorge Posada. Jeter, with his arms crossed, and the other three stared right back at Rodriguez as he apologized directly to them.

In an interview with ESPN last week, Rodriguez admitted to using banned drugs from 2001 to 2003 while playing for the Texas Rangers. He insisted then and again Tuesday that he has not used banned drugs since.

"I'm here to take my medicine," Rodriguez said. "One thing I will say after today I hope to focus on baseball. We have a very special team here."

Asked whether his stats during those

years should count, he said it wasn't for him to decide.

The 33-year-old Rodriguez has hit 553 home runs and is expected by many to break Barry Bonds' record of 762.

At other spring training sites, Trevor Hoffman, Pat Burrell and Raul Ibanez started to settle in with their new teams Monday while Mike Hampton left Houston Astros camp to get treatment for a minor irregularity in his heartbeat.

The upcoming World Baseball Classic also lost one of the sport's biggest stars when St. Louis slugger Albert Pujols said he will not play for the Dominican Republic because of insurance issues.

Hampton returned to Houston to be examined by team physician Dr. Jim Muntz before undergoing a procedure to correct the heartbeat with an electrical current. The Astros hope to have him back in camp Thursday.

The 36-year-old Hampton has had a hard time staying healthy the past four years. He missed most of 2005 with five stints on the disabled list, then was out all of 2006 (elbow surgery) and all of 2007 (torn flexor tendon). He has 141 career victories, but just eight in the past four years.

Pujols' health isn't a concern but the Cardinals star said Monday he's skipping the WBC because "the insurance does not want to cover" him to play. He made the comments during a conference call with Dominican baseball officials.

Pujols, the NL MVP who hit .357 with 37 home runs and 116 RBIs last season, had elbow surgery in October.

Hoffman, meanwhile, is using his early arrival at spring training this year to get to know his new teammates and surroundings with the Milwaukee Brewers.

While the career saves leader is excited about the opportunity after signing a \$6 million contract with the Brewers this winter, he admits he still isn't over the sting of how his long tenure with the Padres ended.

"It's not that I'm disconnected from San Diego. I'm disconnected from the Padres," Hoffman said in Phoenix. "I'm not seeing the same people every day. I'm seeing new people. As much as that three, four months ago didn't seem as much of a reality as it is today, time keeps moving and the game moves on. It doesn't sit for anybody. You kind of have to — like it or not — move on with it. ... I'm still trying to get used to it."

After spending most of the past decade as an everyday outfielder with the Philadelphia Phillies, Burrell is expected to be the primary designated hitter for Tampa Bay this season.

Burrell signed a \$16 million, two-year contract in January after not being offered a new deal in Philadelphia, where he hit .257 with 251 homers and 827 RBIs over parts of nine seasons.

He reported to spring training in Port Charlotte, Fla., in advance of Wednesday's first full-squad workout and is getting a feel for his new surroundings and teammates.

Ibanez was Philadelphia's only major offseason acquisition after winning the World Series. He signed a \$31.5 million, three-year contract to replace left fielder Burrell.

The 36-year-old Ibanez hit .293 last season with 43 doubles, 23 home runs and 110 RBIs for the Seattle Mariners. He's one of five major league outfielders to drive in at least 100 runs in each of the past three seasons, joining Bobby Abreu, Carlos Beltran, Magglio Ordonez and Carlos Lee.

Also Monday, Ryan Ludwick and the Cardinals agreed to a \$3.7 million, one-year contract, avoiding an arbitration hearing that was scheduled for Tuesday.

In Tuesday's news:

■ Outfielder Nate McLouth reached an agreement with the Pittsburgh Pirates on a \$15.75 million, three-year contract that includes a team option for 2012.

The agreement was struck hours before the scheduled start of a salary arbitration hearing in Phoenix.

McLouth hit .276 last season with 26 home runs and 94 RBIs. He was on the NL All-Star team and won a Gold Glove in center field.

■ The Cincinnati Reds and Edwin Encarnacion have agreed to a two-year contract that will pay the third baseman at least \$7.6 million through the 2010 season.

Encarnacion had asked for \$3.7 million this season, while the team offered \$2.55 million.

Encarnacion batted .251 last season with 26 home runs and 68 RBIs.

■ Florida Marlins manager Fredi Gonzalez has received a contract extension through the 2011 season.

Gonzalez, hired after Joe Girardi was fired following the 2006 season, is 155-168 with Florida. He became the third manager to lead the Marlins to a winning record last year, when they went 84-77.

■ Andre Ethier has agreed to a \$3.1 million, one-year deal with the Los Angeles Dodgers after an arbitration hearing was delayed so the sides could continue to negotiate.

Ethier batted .305 with 20 homers and 77 RBIs last year. He had been asking \$3.75 million for this year and the Dodgers offered \$2.65 million.



Stars goalie Marty Turco blocks a shot by the Blue Jackets' Rick Nash during a shootout on Monday. Dallas won the game 3-2.

TERRY GILLIAM/AP

NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division					
	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
New Jersey	37	17	3	77	179
Philadelphia	30	16	9	69	179
N.Y. Rangers	30	22	6	66	144
Pittsburgh	27	25	6	60	173
N.Y. Islanders	17	33	6	40	137
Northeast Division					
	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Boston	39	10	8	86	192
Montreal	30	21	6	66	172
Buffalo	29	22	6	64	168
Ottawa	22	25	8	52	137
Toronto	21	25	10	52	171
Southeast Division					
	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Washington	36	16	8	77	191
Florida	28	20	8	64	160
Carolina	28	24	5	61	146
Tampa Bay	19	26	11	49	142
Atlanta	21	32	5	47	172

Western Conference

Central Division					
	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Detroit	37	12	8	82	215
Chicago	31	15	8	70	181
Columbus	28	23	6	62	155
Nashville	27	27	3	57	138
St. Louis	24	25	7	55	160
Northwest Division					
	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Calgary	33	18	5	71	178
Edmonton	29	23	4	62	159
Vancouver	27	21	8	62	169
Minnesota	28	24	3	59	142
Colorado	26	30	1	53	156
Pacific Division					
	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
San Jose	37	8	9	83	188
Dallas	28	21	7	63	169
Anaheim	28	25	5	61	163
Los Angeles	24	22	9	57	146
Phoenix	25	28	5	55	146

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.

Monday's games
N.Y. Islanders 3, Pittsburgh 2, SO
Dallas 3, Columbus 2, SO
St. Louis 2, N.Y. Rangers 1
Ottawa 2, Nashville 0
Edmonton 3, Phoenix 1
Atlanta 7, Los Angeles 6, SO
Tuesday's games
Boston at Carolina
Buffalo at Toronto
New Jersey at Florida
Chicago at Tampa Bay
Ottawa at Colorado
Vancouver at Calgary
Edmonton at San Jose
Wednesday's games
St. Louis at Columbus
N.Y. Islanders at N.Y. Rangers
Nashville at Detroit
Montreal at Washington
Los Angeles at Anaheim
Thursday's games
Carolina at N.Y. Islanders
Buffalo at Philadelphia
Montreal at Pittsburgh
Columbus at Toronto
Vancouver at Ottawa
New Jersey at Tampa Bay
Chicago at Florida
St. Louis at Nashville
Calgary at Minnesota
Edmonton at Dallas
Atlanta at Phoenix
Los Angeles at San Jose

Monday

Blues 2, Rangers 1					
	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
N.Y. Rangers	0	1	0	0-1	
St. Louis	0	1	1	0-2	
Second Period —1, St. Louis, Colaiacovo 3 (McDonald), 10:27. 2, N.Y. Rangers, Korpikoski 6 (Callahan, Gomez), 16:47.					
Third Period —3, St. Louis, Crombeen 10 (Jackman, McClement), 14:46.					
Shoots on Goal —N.Y. Rangers 7-9-4-20. St. Louis 6-13-14-33.					
Power-play opportunities —N.Y. Rangers 0 of 3; St. Louis 0 of 3.					
Goalies —N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 25-18-5 (33 shots-31 saves). St. Louis, Mason 10-15-4 (20-19).					
A—16,341 (19,150). T—2:21.					

Senators 2, Predators 0

Blues 2, Rangers 1					
	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Ottawa	2	0	0	0-2	
Nashville	0	1	1	0-2	
First Period —1, Ottawa, Foligno 10 (Fisher), 5:20. 2, Ottawa, Heatley 26 (Spezza, Lee), 13:56.					
Shoots on Goal —Ottawa 13-4-7-24. Nashville 8-8-8-24.					
Power-play opportunities —Ottawa 0 of 4; Nashville 0 of 4.					
Goalies —Ottawa, Auld 11-13-5 (24 shots-24 saves). Nashville, Rinne 16-10-0 (24-22).					
A—14,681 (17,113). T—2:17.					

Stars 3, Blue Jackets 2 (SO)

Atlantic Division					
	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Dallas	1	1	0	0-3	
Columbus	0	2	0	0-2	
Dallas won shootout 1-0 (Eriksson, Suter, Richards), 12:27.					
Second Period —2, Columbus, Umberger 18 (Russell, Voracek), 6:17 (pp). 3, Columbus, Umberger 19 (Backman, Torres), 7:46. 4, Dallas, Eriksson 27 (Daley, Ribeiro), 12:56.					
Shootout —Dallas 1 (Ribeiro NG, Neal G), Columbus 0 (Williams NG, Huselius NG, Nash NG).					
Shoots on Goal —Dallas 8-7-6-1-22. Columbus 13-20-6-4-43.					
Power-play opportunities —Dallas 0 of 3; Columbus 1 of 6.					
Goalies —Dallas, Turco 27-19-7 (43 shots-41 saves). Columbus, Mason 21-12-3 (22-20).					
A—15,006 (18,144). T—2:33.					

Islanders 3, Penguins 2 (SO)

Atlantic Division					
	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Pittsburgh	1	1	0	0-2	
N.Y. Islanders	1	1	0	0-3	
N.Y. Islanders won shootout 2-1 First Period —1, N.Y. Islanders, Campoli 6 (Bergenheim, Nielsen), 11:34. 2, Pittsburgh, Malkin 25, 18:07.					
Second Period —3, N.Y. Islanders, Nielsen 3 (Hilbert, Bergenheim), 13:26. 4, Pittsburgh, Whitney 2 (Crosby, Gonchar), 17:07 (pp).					
Shootout —Pittsburgh 1 (Sykora G, Malkin NG, Crosby NG), N.Y. Islanders 2 (Nielsen G, Tambellini G, Okposo NG).					
Shoots on Goal —Pittsburgh 10-10-14-3-37. N.Y. Islanders 12-7-7-4-30.					
Power-play opportunities —Pittsburgh 1 of 3; N.Y. Islanders 0 of 1.					
Goalies —Pittsburgh, Fleury 19-15-4 (30 shots-28 saves). N.Y. Islanders, J.McDonald 12-23-4 (37-35).					
A—16,234 (16,234). T—2:41.					

Oilers 3, Coyotes 1

Atlantic Division					
	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Edmonton	1	1	2	0-3	
Phoenix	0	1	0	0-1	
Second Period —1, Edmonton, Hemsky 18 (Penner, Horcoff), 15:43 (pp). 2, Phoenix, Jovanovski 5 (Doan, Lindstrom), 19:57 (pp).					
Third Period —3, Edmonton, Souray 15 (Hemsky, Gilbert), 5:33 (pp). 4, Edmonton, Horcoff 13 (Brodziak, Gilbert), 19:36 (en).					
Shoots on Goal —Edmonton 13-8-8-29. Phoenix 13-6-10-29.					
Power-play opportunities —Edmonton 2 of 4; Phoenix 1 of 6.					
Goalies —Edmonton, Roloson 20-13-4 (29 shots-28 saves). Phoenix, Tellqvist 6-5-1 (28-26).					
A—14,547 (17,125). T—2:29.					

Thrashers 7, Kings 6 (SO)

Atlantic Division					
	W	L	OT	Pts	GF
Atlanta	4	1	1	0-7	
Los Angeles	2	1	3	0-6	
Atlanta won shootout 2-1 First Period —1, Atlanta, Little 23 (Kovalchuk, Bogosian), 1:11. 2, Atlanta, Kovalchuk 28 (Hainsey, Kozlov), 5:59 (pp). 3, Atlanta, White 15 (Little, Bogosian), 7:41 (pp). 4, Los Angeles, Johnson 2 (Doughty, O'Sullivan), 14:56 (pp). 5, Atlanta, Reasoner 9 (Peverly, Kozlov), 15:29. 6, Los Angeles, Stoll 14 (Frolov, Brown), 17:34 (pp).					
Second Period —7, Los Angeles, Frolov 23 (O'Sullivan, Kopitar), 5:01. 8, Atlanta, Stuart 3 (Enstrom, Reasoner), 19:17 (sh).					
Shoots on Goal —Atlanta, Kovalchuk 29 (White, Bogosian), 3:31. 10, Los Angeles, Kopitar 17 (Doughty, Johnson), 7:30 (pp). 11, Los Angeles, D.Gauthier 11 (Kopitar, Frolov), 10:05. 12, Los Angeles, Kopitar 18 (Brown, Frolov), 19:55 (pp).					
Shootout —Atlanta 2 (Little NG, Kozlov G, Kovalchuk NG, Christensen G), Los Angeles 1 (Kopitar G, Johnson NG, Brown NG, O'Sullivan NG).					
Shoots on Goal —Atlanta 12-9-4-2-27. Los Angeles 9-15-19-2-45.					
Power-play opportunities —Atlanta 2 of 3; Los Angeles 4 of 8.					
Goalies —Atlanta, Hedberg 7-9-3 (45 shots-39 saves). Los Angeles, Quick (7-4), Ersberg 8-7-4 (7-41 first, 20-17).					
A—18,118 (18,118). T—2:58.					

Calendar

March 4 — Trade deadline, 3 p.m. EST.
April 12 — Last day of 2008-09 regular season.
April 15 — Stanley Cup Playoffs begin.
June 15 — Last possible day for Stanley Cup finals.
June 26-27 — NHL draft, Montreal.

NHL roundup

Pushed Pens still don't click

New coach gets similar results in SO loss

The Associated Press

UNIONDALE, N.Y. — Dan Bylsma has ideas on how to turn the Pittsburgh Penguins back into Stanley Cup contenders. What the new coach might be lacking is enough time to make it happen this season.

Bylsma's debut with the Penguins, after he replaced fired coach Michel Therrien less than 24 hours earlier, wasn't a total loss Monday. But the 3-2 shootout defeat against the lowly New York Islanders was hardly a confidence booster for the struggling defending Eastern Conference champions.

"With the little amount of time we had to make an adjustment or get on the same page systematically, I think it was expected to see a scramble out there," Bylsma said. "As the game went on, we got more in tune with how we want to play."

These Penguins will have to be fast learners if they hope to return to the Stanley Cup finals, or even the playoffs. With the one point earned Monday, Pittsburgh is still 10th in the Eastern Conference — two places and four points below the postseason cutoff.

Pittsburgh (27-25-6) has 24 games to make a push, but the Penguins are 1-2-1 in their past four and have just one road victory in 2009 (1-7-2).

"As players, we realize that things could change, but we still have to go out and play," captain Sidney Crosby said. "He just wanted us to be a little more aggressive, but to play the same basic way."

Frans Nielsen and Jeff Tambellini scored shootout goals, and Joey MacDonald turned aside Evgeni Malkin and Crosby in the tiebreaker to snap the Islanders' 0-4-1 skid.

"Those first moments, there were some nerves there," said Bylsma, who hadn't completed one season as an AHL head coach before his big promotion.

Bylsma got the call that he would replace Therrien on Sunday, just before he was set to coach his Wilkes Barre-Scranton club — the Penguins' AHL affiliate.

Bylsma is faced with the task of implementing a new fast, attacking style that can make the most of the Penguins' talented forwards. It produced a season-high 37 shots Monday, but only one point in the standings.

Malkin and Ryan Whitney scored tying goals, and Marc-Andre Fleury made 28 saves through overtime.

"We want two points every game, especially right now," forward Jordan Staal said.

Chris Campoli and Frans Nielsen scored for New York, which owns the NHL's worst record (17-33-6).

"It's great to get the win," MacDonald said. "We knew with the coaching change that they would come out hard, and we responded pretty good."



JOHN DUNN/AP

Pittsburgh Penguins coach Dan Bylsma calls a play in the second period against the New York Islanders on Monday in his first game after he replaced Michel Therrien, who was fired Sunday.

The Penguins erased a pair of one-goal deficits with 20 shots through two periods and then turned it on.

"We have to play that way for 60 minutes," Bylsma said. "If you do, you tip the scales in your favor."

Stars 3, Blue Jackets 2 (SO): At Columbus, Ohio, James Neal scored the only goal in the shootout and Marty Turco had 41 saves to lead Dallas.

Neal, 6-for-9 in shootouts this season, slipped the puck past Steve Mason on the glove side. Turco, tested all night, then made a blocker save on Blue Jackets captain Rick Nash to preserve the victory.

"You want to step up. You want to be a big player and contribute," said Neal, who came in with four goals and an assist in three games against Columbus this season. "I want to be a guy who can put the puck in the net in big situations."

The teams came in tied with Anaheim for sixth place in the West with 61 points.

R.J. Umberger had both Blue Jackets goals in a span of 1:29 in the second period — the fastest goals ever by a Columbus player.

Blues 2, Rangers 1: At St. Louis, B.J. Crombeen scored the go-ahead goal on a rebound with 5:14 to play to lift the Blues.

Lauri Korpikoski had the lone goal for the Rangers, who have lost eight of nine while scoring

two or fewer goals in all but one.

Chris Mason made 19 saves and Carlo Colaiacovo also scored for the Blues, 4-1-2 in their past seven games while trying to inch into playoff contention.

Senators 2, Predators 0: At Nashville, Tenn., Nick Foligno and Dany Heatley scored first-period goals, and Alex Auld made 24 saves to lead Ottawa to its season-high fifth straight victory.

Since replacing Craig Hartsburg as coach on Feb. 2, Cory Clouston has guided Ottawa to a 5-1-1 record.

Oilers 3, Coyotes 1: At Glendale, Ariz., Sheldon Souray scored a power-play goal with 14:27 remaining to lift Edmonton.

Ales Hemsky had a goal and assist and Shawn Horcoff added an empty-netter with 23.5 seconds left for the Oilers, who beat Phoenix for the seventh straight time.

Ed Jovanovski scored a power-play goal for the Coyotes, who lost their sixth straight at home and ninth in 10 games since the All-Star break.

Thrashers 7, Kings 6 (SO): At Los Angeles, Ilya Kovalchuk had two goals and an assist, rookie defenseman Zach Bogosian had three assists, and Erik Christensen scored in the fourth round of the shootout for Atlanta.

Anze Kopitar scored his second goal of the game for the Kings with 5 seconds left in the third period to force overtime.

Sports briefs

Saints release running back McAllister

The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Popular running back Deuce McAllister was released by the New Orleans Saints on Tuesday in a move that reduced the team's payroll as free agency approaches.

McAllister, the Saints' career leading rusher with 6,069 yards, was due over \$7 million next season. The Saints said they granted McAllister his release so he could seek offers from other teams.

He played a limited role in the Saints' offense last season with 107 carries for 418 yards. McAllister has had reconstructive surgery on both knees.

"Decisions like this are always very difficult ones to make," Saints general manager Mickey Loomis said. "Deuce has epitomized hard work, leadership and productivity throughout his career and has been a source of great pride for all of us associated with the team."

A first-round draft choice in 2001, McAllister also holds team records for touchdowns (55) and rushing touchdowns (49) and is the only Saints player to rush for 1,000 yards in a season four times.

He played in the Pro Bowl in 2002 and 2003. His last 1,000-yard season was 2006, when the Saints advanced to the NFC Championship Game. That also was the season before McAllister's second anterior cruciate ligament tear.

McAllister's first ACL tear occurred in his right knee early in the 2005 season and the second in his left knee in the third game of the 2007 season.

Florida player charged with violating restraining order

GAINESVILLE — Florida offensive lineman Carl Johnson was arrested on Monday and charged with violating a domestic violence restraining order.

According to Alachua County records, Johnson last week was ordered to stay away from a woman but was arrested early Monday afternoon after he allegedly followed her off a bus.

Johnson, 6-foot-6, 330 pounds, was being held in the Alachua County jail late Monday night.

Florida coach Urban Meyer was unavailable for comment.

Johnson started eight games at left guard for the national champions last season.

New showdown after Dubai blocks Israeli tennis player

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Organizers of a women's tennis tournament said Tuesday that security fears were behind the decision to bar an Israeli player — a move that could force another showdown when the men's play begins next week.

The snub brought swift denunciations from the Women's Tennis Association and warnings that it could consider scratching Dubai from its calendar. The Tennis Channel canceled plans to televise the championships in protest.

Tuesday's statement by the



ALEX BRANDON/AP

New Orleans released running back Deuce McAllister on Tuesday.

Dubai Tennis Championships — citing fan anger at Israel's recent incursions into the Gaza Strip — was the first detailed explanation of the last-minute visa denial for Shahar Peer, who qualified as the 48th-ranked player in the world. Monday's WTA rankings listed her 45th.

But the United Arab Emirates, which is trying to become a showcase for world-class sports, has come under increasing pressure with the men's field as Israeli doubles specialist Andy Ram hopes to be in the draw on Sunday.

The UAE — which does not have diplomatic relations with Israel — could face setbacks in hosting other major sports events if the WTA and other federations grow skittish over the prospect of Israeli athletes being blocked.

Armstrong moves up a spot in Tour of California

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. — Lance Armstrong took a spill when he got tangled with a motorcycle, and still moved up a spot in the overall standings Monday in the Tour of California after a rainy and crash-filled second stage.

Two-time defending champion Levi Leipheimer of Santa Rosa, Calif., became the third race leader. He emerged from a chasing group on the final climb with about 17 miles left before finishing a close second to stage winner Thomas Peterson of North Bend, Wa.

Peterson was victorious in the 115.9-mile Sausalito to Santa Cruz road race in 5 hours, 6 minutes and 20 seconds.

Strong wind and heavy rain hampered the field throughout most of the stage, which crossed the Golden Gate Bridge shortly after the start.

Armstrong, the seven-time Tour de France winner making a comeback after a 3½-year retirement, had his mishap about 80 miles into the stage.

"A motorcycle for the photographer from the race crashed right

in front of me," Armstrong said. "Unfortunately, but it could have been worse. I don't feel too bad, hip is a little banged up but overall a great day. Levi proved he is the best guy in the race hands down."

Armstrong quickly received a spare bike from a team car and returned to the field with the assistance of teammate Jose Luis Rubiera of Spain.

Armstrong, who began the day in fifth place, is now fourth, 30 seconds behind. He finished 13th in the stage.

Bengals tag Graham as franchise player

CINCINNATI — The Bengals tagged kicker Shayne Graham as their franchise player Monday, a move that gives the eight-year veteran the option to sign a one-year deal for a salary equal to the average of the five highest-paid kickers from last season.

It also saves the Bengals a bunch of money. The value of the franchise tag for kickers in 2009 is a salary of \$2.48 million. If the team had named T.J. Houshmandzadeh as its franchise player, as many observers expected, the cost to designate a wide receiver jumps to \$9.88 million.

Graham's 85.6 percent career field-goal accuracy ranks fourth all-time in the NFL. He holds several Bengals kicking records, including consecutive field goals (21), season field-goal percentage (91.2) and consecutive extra points (158). He's second on the Bengals' career scoring list with 682 points.

Federer to miss Davis Cup matches, Dubai tournament

Roger Federer will miss Switzerland's Davis Cup matches against the United States and next week's tournament in Dubai as he rehabs a back injury.

Federer said on his Web site Tuesday he did not have enough time to completely strengthen his back after hurting it last fall. He

says he is taking a precautionary measure.

Switzerland faces the U.S. in the first round of the Davis Cup on March 6-8 in Birmingham, Ala.

Federer says Dubai is one of his favorite tournaments, and he regrets being unable to help his country in the Davis Cup. Federer is ranked No. 2. He lost to Rafael Nadal in five sets in the Australian Open final.

Horse-collar tackles banned from high school football

INDIANAPOLIS — Following the lead of the NFL and the NCAA, the National Federation of State High School Associations has banned the horse-collar tackle from high school football.

Starting this fall, tackling a player by grabbing the inside collar of the shoulder pads or jersey will be a personal foul carrying a 15-yard penalty from the spot of the infraction.

"Though this play does not happen often, we must ensure that our coaches and officials understand the importance of penalizing this act," said Julian Tackett, assistant commissioner of the Kentucky High School Athletic Association and chairman of the NFHS football rules committee.

The change, approved by the committee last month, was ratified last week by the board of directors of the Indianapolis-based NFHS, the governing organization for almost 19,000 high schools in the United States.

The NCAA adopted a similar ban last summer.

Auction of Vick's Georgia home set for March 10

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — Michael Vick's suburban Atlanta home will be sold at auction March 10.

The judge in the imprisoned NFL star's bankruptcy case scheduled the auction Tuesday for the eight-bedroom home and set a minimum bid of \$3.2 million.

The auction will be held in either Atlanta or suburban Gwinnett County, upon agreement by Vick and the committee representing his creditors. The judge set a hearing for March 17 to approve the sale.

Vick is serving a 23-month prison sentence at the federal penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kan., for his role in a dogfighting conspiracy. He is scheduled for release July 20.

Bills re-sign special teams player and WR Jenkins

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. — The Buffalo Bills have re-signed receiver and special teams player Justin Jenkins.

Jenkins played 13 games last season, making seven tackles on a unit that was one of the best in the league. In 2007, he played in 11 games for Buffalo after being promoted from the team's practice squad in October.

He was originally signed as an undrafted free agent by the Philadelphia Eagles in 2004.

The signing was announced Tuesday.

NCAA president Brand says his cancer is advanced

INDIANAPOLIS — NCAA president Myles Brand says he's fighting advanced pancreatic cancer "as hard as I can" with aggressive chemotherapy that has left him fatigued.

The 66-year-old Brand told USA Today he learned of his diagnosis Christmas Eve. A few days later his doctors told him his cancer had reached the fourth and final stage by spreading beyond the pancreas, making surgical removal of the cancer impossible.

Brand said his doctors at the Indiana University Simon Cancer Center in Indianapolis have not given him a medical timetable.

Stars' Richards out with broken right wrist

DALLAS — Dallas Stars center Brad Richards was placed on injured reserve Tuesday because of a fractured right wrist. He could miss the rest of the regular season.

Richards was hurt in the Stars' 3-2 shootout victory at Columbus on Monday night. He scored only 27 seconds into the game, but took a hard check midway through the second period and skated to the bench holding his right wrist.

The Stars medical staff evaluated Richards on Tuesday and determined that he will not need surgery. Richards, expected to be out six to eight weeks, will be re-evaluated in a month.

Richards had 48 points (16 goals, 32 assists) in 55 games for the Stars.

United goalie Wells retires

WASHINGTON — D.C. United goalkeeper Zach Wells, who is recovering from foot surgery, announced his retirement from professional soccer Tuesday.

Wells, 27, played in MLS for five seasons with New York, Houston and United and had a career record of 17-13-9. He also made one appearance with the U.S. national team, playing 10 minutes in a game against Guatemala in 2006.

Wells began last year as United's starting goalkeeper after being traded from Houston. He went 8-8-1 in league play.

Blue Jackets put Modin on IR

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The Columbus Blue Jackets placed left wing Fredrik Modin on injured reserve with a lower body injury Tuesday, the second time this season he's been out hurt.

The move is retroactive to Saturday when Modin was injured in the Blue Jackets' 5-1 victory at Carolina. He was evaluated by team physicians when the club returned to Columbus and is expected to miss at least a week.

The 34-year-old has nine goals and 16 assists in 49 games this season. In 813 career NHL games, he has 220 goals and 221 assists with the Blue Jackets, Tampa Bay Lightning and Toronto Maple Leafs.

UConn takes a hard fall

Physical Pittsburgh knocks off No. 1 team

By JIM O'CONNELL
The Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — It wasn't just a game between No. 1 and No. 4. It was a game between two of the Big East's most physical teams. And it was played just the way it was expected to be.

"That was the most physical game I ever played in my entire life," DeJuan Blair said after getting 22 points and 23 rebounds in No. 4 Pittsburgh's 76-68 victory over Connecticut on Monday night, the Panthers' first win over a No. 1 team. "There were elbows flying, bodies flying. We just went after each other the whole game."

Connecticut coach Jim Calhoun referred to the games played in the conference more than a decade ago.

"The Big East games in the 90s were like this," he said after having his team's 13-game winning streak stopped. "They came in here and played a style of basketball we haven't seen this year and it was effective against us. ... They made big plays and we didn't. It was a hell of a basketball game."

The biggest of those plays were three-pointers from LeVance Fields, who scored all 10 of his points in the final 3:09. His first three gave the Panthers (24-2, 11-2) the lead for good at 64-61 with 3:09 left. His second, with 2:21 left, made it 67-61, and he added four free throws in the final minute.

Pittsburgh coach Jamie Dixon kidded around that if he knew Fields had missed his first eight shots, he might not have called plays for him.

Those misses didn't faze Fields, a senior point guard who leads the nation in assist-to-turnover ratio.

"I think every shot I take is going in so it didn't matter how many I had missed," he said. "It didn't matter that I missed the first eight, I got the biggest two."

A.J. Price had 18 points for the Huskies (24-2, 12-2), who started their third week at No. 1 earlier Monday.

Sam Young had 25 points for Pittsburgh, which lost all 13 games it had played against No. 1 teams, the last three against Connecticut in the past 11 years.

The game was expected to be physical down low and it was with the 6-foot-7 Blair flipping 7-3 Hasheem Thabeet over his back in the first half, sending him to the bench for about 4 minutes. Blair got a dose back in the second half when he had to leave the game for almost 3 minutes after taking an elbow to the face.

"It seemed like a typical game to us, big bodies, good players, playing hard on a national stage," Dixon said. "It didn't seem too much of a change for us."

Calhoun felt it was quite a change for his team.

"We haven't played in that sort of game since the early 2000s, the 1990s," he said. "That was what was going to be allowed tonight and Pittsburgh played that way. They outrebounded us, and we left a man open on two big plays. We were in a foreign land a bit.

I'm very proud of the 13-game winning streak and hopefully we'll get back to boxing out."

Thabeet, coming off a 25-point, 20-rebound, nine-block effort against Seton Hall, finished with five points on 1-for-5 shooting and had four rebounds and two blocks.

"We played Pittsburgh before and it's always a battle," Thabeet said. "I'm glad we get to play them again."

The teams meet again on March 7 in Pittsburgh and there could be another matchup in the Big East tournament.

Pitt took a 36-33 halftime lead behind Blair's 15 points and 13 rebounds and Young's 12 points.

Connecticut, which leads the Big East in scoring defense (60.5) and field goal percentage defense

(37.3) held Pittsburgh to 7-for-25 shooting and led 56-51.

The minutes leading up to Fields' big shots were as intense as college basketball gets. The lead changed hands four times and there was a tie in the 2½ minutes leading up to those shots.

Both his three-pointers were wide-open shots when Connecticut couldn't switch fast enough on screens, and they seemed to take the wind out of the Huskies, who came up empty on both possessions around the threes.

"I thought we were taking good shots and I said we would hit some shots down the stretch and LeVance did," Dixon said. "He's hit big shots his whole career at Pitt and those were among the biggest."



FRED BECKHAM/AP

Connecticut's Hasheem Thabeet lands hard after fighting for a rebound with Pittsburgh's DeJuan Blair during the first half on Monday. The physical play forced both to the bench for a stretch of the game.

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NBA briefs

Celtics trade G Cassell to Kings

The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The Sacramento Kings have acquired veteran guard Sam Cassell from the Boston Celtics for a conditional second-round draft pick in 2015.

The 39-year-old Cassell hasn't played this season for the Celtics, who acquired him in early March before their run to the NBA title. He essentially served as another assistant coach this season with Boston, which also sent cash considerations to Sacramento in the trade.

The deal on Tuesday also decreases Boston's luxury tax obligations for the season.

The Kings, who have the NBA's worst record at 11-43, didn't immediately announce whether Cassell would join the team or be released. Sacramento hosts the Atlanta Hawks on Wednesday.

Cassell has won three NBA championships during his 16 seasons in the league.

Suns suspend Richardson after arrest

PHOENIX — The Phoenix Suns have suspended Jason Richardson for one game without pay as the result of his arrest on allegations he was driving 55 mph above the limit with his unrestrained 3-year-old son in the car.

In a brief statement late Monday afternoon, the Suns said Richardson would miss Tuesday night's home game against the Los Angeles Clippers "for conduct detrimental to the team."

A Scottsdale police officer first saw Richardson driving 67 mph in a 40 mph zone Sunday night and followed him, police said Monday. That's when the officer clocked him at 90 mph in a 35 mph zone and pulled him over.

Police said Richardson admitted to speeding and identified himself as a Suns player. The of-

ficer saw Richardson's son in the back seat of the car and that he was not in a child seat.

Richardson said he had taken his son to dinner and was on his way home.

He was arrested and charged with reckless driving, excessive speeding and failure to use a child seat. He was released from jail after a few hours.

Police said Richardson's fiancée responded to the scene of the stop and took custody of the boy.

Richardson spoke briefly to reporters after the Suns practiced on Monday.

"I just want to apologize to everybody — my teammates, my family, especially my fiancée," he said. "It's a tough time for me. I've been questioned as a basketball player, questioned as a person, but my fatherhood in question is tough, because I try to be the best father I can be, and try to keep my kids out of harm's way."

The Suns announced the suspension about two hours later.

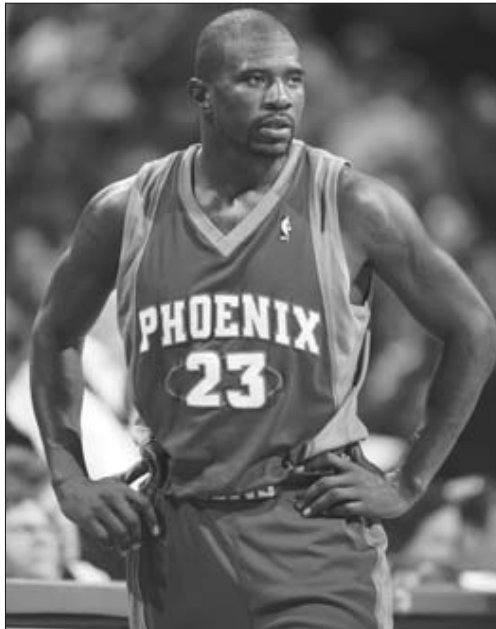
Cavs' Wallace cuts arm during All-Star break

CLEVELAND — Cavaliers center Ben Wallace needed 14 stitches to close a cut in his right forearm after injuring himself over the NBA All-Star break.

The team said Wallace sustained lacerations from glass while playing catch with a football in Richmond, Va. When he got back to Cleveland on Monday, Wallace underwent further evaluation at the Cleveland Clinic and had more pieces of glass removed from his arm on Tuesday, the Cavs said in a statement.

The Cavaliers listed Wallace as questionable for Wednesday night's game in Toronto.

Cleveland's best defensive interior player, Wallace is averaging 3.1 points and 6.7 rebounds this season.



Phoenix Suns guard Jason Richardson was suspended one game without pay by the team as the result of his arrest on allegations he was driving 55 mph above the limit with his unrestrained 3-year-old son in the car.

David Zalubowski/AP

Trade sends Hornets' Chandler to Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City Thunder have acquired center Tyson Chandler from New Orleans in a deal that sends veterans Joe Smith and Chris Wilcox to the Hornets.

After years of trying to draft and develop a front-line center, the move finally gives the Thunder a proven talent inside. The 7-foot-1 Chandler has averaged 8.8 points and 8.3 rebounds this season as the frequent recipient of All-Star point guard Chris Paul's alley-oop passes.

For the Hornets, the trade provides an opportunity to shed salary in an uncertain New Orleans economy by adding two contracts that expire at the end of the season. The Hornets also got the rights to DeVon Hardin, a sec-

ond-round pick out of California in last year's draft.

Pistons trade Acker to Clippers

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — The Detroit Pistons traded Alex Acker to the Los Angeles Clippers on Monday, creating salary-cap space for moves the next two offseasons.

Detroit dealt the seldom-used guard and its second-round pick in 2011 for a conditional second-round selection in 2013 from the Clippers. Los Angeles also waived center Cheikh Samb.

The Pistons will have about \$23 million in salary-cap space.

The 6-foot-5 Acker played in just seven games for the Pistons this season, averaging 1.3 points. Detroit drafted him 60th overall in 2005.

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	44	11	.800	—
Philadelphia	27	24	.529	15
New Jersey	24	29	.453	19
New York	21	31	.404	21½
Toronto	21	34	.382	23
Southeast Division				
Orlando	38	13	.745	—
Atlanta	31	21	.596	7½
Miami	28	24	.538	10½
Charlotte	21	31	.404	17½
Washington	11	42	.208	28
Central Division				
Cleveland	40	11	.784	—
Detroit	27	24	.529	13
Milwaukee	26	29	.473	16
Chicago	23	30	.434	18
Indiana	21	33	.389	20½

Western Conference

Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	35	16	.686	—
Houston	32	21	.604	4
New Orleans	30	20	.600	4½
Dallas	31	21	.596	4½
Memphis	15	37	.288	20½
Northwest Division				
Denver	36	17	.679	—
Portland	32	20	.615	3½
Utah	30	23	.566	6
Minnesota	17	34	.333	18
Oklahoma City	13	40	.245	23
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	42	10	.808	—
Phoenix	28	23	.549	13½
Golden State	19	35	.352	24
L.A. Clippers	13	40	.245	29½
Sacramento	11	43	.204	32

Monday's games

No games scheduled

Tuesday's games

Charlotte at Orlando
Philadelphia at Indiana
Minnesota at Washington
Milwaukee at Detroit
San Antonio at New York
New Orleans at Oklahoma City
New Jersey at Houston
Memphis at Utah
L.A. Clippers at Phoenix
Atlanta at L.A. Lakers

Wednesday's games

Denver at Philadelphia
Cleveland at Toronto
Indiana at Charlotte
Minnesota at Miami
Chicago at Milwaukee
Orlando at New Orleans
New Jersey at Dallas
Atlanta at Sacramento
Memphis at Portland
Phoenix at L.A. Clippers
L.A. Lakers at Golden State

Thursday's games

San Antonio at Detroit
Boston at Utah

Calendar

Feb. 19 — Trading Deadline, 3 p.m. EST.

April 9-11 — Portsmouth (Va.) Invitation Tournament.

April 15 — Regular season ends.

April 16 — Rosters set for playoffs, 3 p.m. EST.

April 18 — Playoffs begin.

April 26 — Early entry eligibility deadline (11:59 p.m. EDT).

May 15 — Draft lottery.

June 5 — NBA Finals start date (possible move-up to June 3).

June 15 — NBA Draft early entry entrant withdrawal deadline (5 p.m. EDT).

June 18 — NBA Finals latest possible end date.

June 25 — NBA Draft.



MATT SLOCUM/AP

West All-Star Dirk Nowitzki (41) says the Dallas Mavericks are in a "great position to have a great playoff run," despite an inconsistent first half of the season.

NBA: Teams struggle with consistency

NBA, FROM BACK PAGE

Boston's 44-11 record was just percentage points behind the Lakers' 42-10 mark for best in the league.

"I think we have the pieces necessary to win another championship," said Pierce, the MVP of last season's NBA Finals. "Teams are always looking to improve. If there is a way to do it, they will do it. If not, I think we are still one of the best teams in the NBA."

James' Cavaliers, neck-and-neck with the Celtics in the East, also might consider a move, as could any other title hopeful hoping there's one more part available to separate itself from the pack.

Teams like Phoenix and Houston, disappointments thus far who expected to contend, have to decide if they keep together or break apart their underperforming clubs.

But teams looking to strike the big deal could be wary from what happened last year, when big names such as O'Neal and Jason Kidd were traded to contenders before the deadline, yet their teams couldn't make it past the first round.

"A good team is not built in one day. We are not like the Celtics with a Big Three. I think we will need some time."

Yao Ming

Houston Rockets center

Houston made a splash with its summer acquisition of Ron Artest, but hasn't been able to keep him, Yao Ming and Tracy McGrady healthy long enough to build any type of momentum.

"A good team is not built in one day," Yao said. "We are not like the Celtics with a Big Three. I think we will need some time."

Plenty of West teams are in the same position. New Orleans, Utah and Dallas also have been inconsistent, but all hope they can get healthy and take off like the Rockets did last year, winning 22 straight games to vault up the playoff ladder.

"We were struggling and it was a little up and down, but the good thing is other teams were, too," Mavericks All-Star Dirk Nowitzki said. "If you look at New Orleans, lost some tough games. Utah, (Carlos) Boozer has been out for a couple months. They lost some games. Phoenix is struggling."

"There are a lot of teams that are up and down a little bit, and I think that's what helps us. I still think we are in a great position to have a great playoff run."

Maybe so, but things seem set up for a marquee final four of Celtics-Cavaliers and Lakers-Spurs. That would offer the potential of a championship rematch, or perhaps a duel between James and Bryant, the leading MVP candidates.

The Lakers would like their chances against anyone. Even after losing center Andrew Bynum to a knee injury that could keep him out until the playoffs, Los Angeles won at Boston and Cleveland during a 6-0 road trip before the break.

"We want to win another championship," Bryant said. "We have a good team, have the team to do it. That's our goal."

Far East basketball tournament scoreboard

Girls Class A

At Ironworks Fitness & Sports Center and Matthew C. Perry High School, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan
Final pool-play standings
(listed in order of playoff seeding)

Pool A	
St. Paul Christian, Guam	3-0
Matthew C. Perry, Japan	1-2
Korea International	0-3
Pool B	
Yongsan International-Seoul	3-0
Seisen International, Japan	2-1
E.J. King, Japan	0-3

Pool C	
Int'l School of the Sacred Heart, Japan	3-0
Daegu American, South Korea	2-2
Hiroshima International, Japan	0-3

Pool D	
Robert D. Edgren, Japan	4-0
Osan American, South Korea	2-2
Morrison Christian Acad., Taiwan	1-3
Int'l Christian-Uijongbu, S. Korea	0-3

Tuesday's summaries	
Edgren 43, Morrison 40	
Edgren	12 7 10 14-43
Morrison	11 8 14 7-40

Scoring-Edgren, Jessica Bergman 12; Morrison, Rachel Schulz 10.

St. Paul 42, E.J. King 9	
St. Paul	11 13 8 10-42
E.J. King	2 2 1 4-9

Scoring-St. Paul, Benavente 14; E.J. King, Emily Cox 6.

ISSH 34, Osan 21	
ISSH	14 12 0 8-34
Osan	5 3 5 8-21

Scoring-ISSH, Mei Shimada 10; Osan, Ieva Bytautaitis 8.

Seisen 43, KIS 11	
Seisen	12 10 13 8-43
KIS	2 7 2 0-11

YIS-S 31, Perry 12	
YIS-S	6 8 6 11-31
Perry	5 5 0 2-12

Scoring-YIS-S, Yoo Jin Her 13; Perry, Bria Raines 5.

Edgren 50, HIS 2	
Edgren	14 11 15 10-50
HIS	2 0 0 0-2

Scoring-Edgren, Ashley Hawkins 15; Jessica Bergman 14.

Daegu 46, Morrison 42	
Daegu	10 10 15 11-46
Morrison	16 8 8 10-42

Scoring-Daegu, Chanel O'Neill 14; Morrison, Rachel Schulz 12.

Osan 31, ICS-Uijongbu 23	
Osan	5 9 8 9-31
ICS-U	5 5 6 7-23

Scoring-Osan, Celine Baldevia 9; Jasmine Pressley 9.

Double-elimination playoffs

Wednesday's games

Game 1-Perry vs. Osan, 9 a.m.

Game 2-Morrison vs. KIS, 9 a.m.

Game 3-St. Paul vs. ICS-Uijongbu, 10:30 a.m.

Game 4-E.J. King vs. Daegu, 10:30 a.m.

Game 5-HIS vs. Seisen, noon

Game 6-YIS-S vs. G1 winner, noon

Game 7-ISSH vs. G2 winner, 1:30 p.m.

Game 8-G3 winner vs. G4 winner, 1:30 p.m.

Game 9-Edgren vs. G5 winner, 3:30 p.m.

Remaining schedule to be determined.

Boys Class A

At Potter Fitness & Sports Center and Robert D. Edgren High School, Misawa Air Base, Japan
Final pool-play standings
(listed in order of playoff seeding)

Pool A	
Osan American, South Korea	3-1
Morrison Christian Acad., Taiwan	3-1
Robert D. Edgren, Japan	3-1
Matthew C. Perry, Japan	1-3
Yongsan International-Seoul	0-4

Tuesday's summaries	
Osan 49, Morrison 45	
Osan	9 13 17 10-49
Morrison	19 6 6 14-45

Perry 69, YIS-S 59	
Perry	14 14 14 17-59
YIS-S	13 11 22 23-59

Scoring-Perry, Chase Dariso 26, John Ayers 25 (five three-point goals, four in fourth period); YIS-S, Jake Jo 20, Alex Kim 12.

Edgren 49, Osan 46	
Edgren	16 17 7 9-49
Osan	12 10 7 17-46

Scoring-Edgren, Jacob Sterry 19, Ethan Blake 13; Osan, Harry Fykes 18, Sean Moye 15.

Noteworthy-Dan Arnold of Osan fell short in game-tying shot attempt at last second.

Morrison 82, YIS-S 67	
Morrison	29 6 28 19-82
YIS-S	16 11 18 22-67

Scoring-Morrison, Stephen Hovater 19, Matt Headline 19; YIS-S, Ryan Park 18.

Edgren 77, Perry 73	
Edgren	24 17 20 16-77
Perry	16 16 21 20-73

Scoring-Edgren, Jacob Sterry 22, Nate Ong 20; Perry, John Ayers 42.

Noteworthy-Edgren's John Benavidez had two steals in last 30 seconds of game, final assist to Sterry for game-clinching basket.

Pool B

St. Paul Christian, Guam 4-0

E.J. King, Japan 3-1

Daegu American, South Korea 2-2

Hokkaido International, Japan 1-3

Korea International 0-4

Tuesday's summaries	
St. Paul 45, Daegu 42	
St. Paul	10 13 13 9-45
Daegu	16 8 14 4-42

Scoring-St. Paul, Guy Mosley 11, Kory Borja 11; Daegu, Marcus Lee 12.

Noteworthy-Daegu, Thomas Brooks 6 first half.

Noteworthy-Mosley's three-point play with 1:53 left in fourth quarter breaks 42-42 tie.

E.J. King 61, KIS 49	
E.J. King	12 12 6 19-49
KIS	14 15 18 14-61

Scoring-E.J. King, Ryan Wagner 28; KIS, Brian Kwon 28.

Rebounding-E.J. King, Ryan Wagner 6; KIS, Brian Kwon 11.

Daegu 85, Hokkaido 49

Hokkaido	14 12 13 10-49
Daegu	16 15 28 26-85

Scoring-Daegu, Drew Snowden 20, Marcus Lee 19, Thomas Brooks 10; Hokkaido, Kaufman 19, Viljoen 12, Oda 10.

Blocked shots-Daegu, Drew Snowden 4.

St. Paul 58, KIS 45	
KIS	11 9 10 15-45
St. Paul	15 4 23 16-58

Scoring-St. Paul, Kory Borja 24, Guy Mosley 18; Korea International, Brian Kwon 23.

E.J. King 64, Hokkaido 23	
Hokkaido	2 6 2 13-23
E.J. King	17 18 13 16-64

Scoring-E.J. King, Ryan Wagner 11, Kenneth Dixon 10; Hokkaido, Allen Cheng 7.

Rebounding-E.J. King, Kenneth Dixon 18, Reggie Scott 7; Hokkaido, Luke Viljoen 11.

Double-elimination playoffs

Wednesday's games

Game 1-YIS-S vs. Hokkaido, 10 a.m.

Game 2-Perry vs. KIS, 10 a.m.

Game 3-Edgren vs. E.J. King, 10 a.m.

Game 4-Morrison vs. Daegu, noon

Game 5-Osan vs. G1 winner, 2 p.m.

Game 6-St. Paul vs. G2 winner, 2 p.m.

Game 7-G2 loser vs. G3 loser, 2 p.m.

Game 8-G1 loser vs. G4 loser, 4 p.m.

Thursday's games

Game 9-G5 loser vs. G7 winner, 10 a.m.

Game 10-G6 loser vs. G8 winner, 10 a.m.

Game 11-G3 winner vs. G5 winner, 10 a.m.

Game 12-G4 winner vs. G6 winner, noon

Game 13-G10 winner vs. G11 loser, 4 p.m.

Game 14-G9 winner vs. G12 loser, 4 p.m.

Game 15-G11 winner vs. G12 winner, 6 p.m.

Boys Class AA

At Capps Gym, Yokota High School and Samurai Fitness & Sports Center, Yokota Air Base, Japan
Final pool-play standings
(listed in order of playoff seeding)

Pool A	
Yokota, Japan	3-0
Kubasaki, Okinawa	2-1
Okkodo, Guam	1-2
Christian Academy In Japan	0-3

Tuesday's summaries	
Yokota 62, Kubasaki 43	
Kubasaki	15 17 6 5-43
Yokota	28 10 19 5-62

Scoring-Yokota, DeEri Harvin 16, Keron Brown 15, Taj Kirby 14, Anthony Phillips 10; Kubasaki, Kentrell Key 12, Devin Roseboro 12.

Okkodo 53, CAJ 51	
Okkodo	15 13 11 14-53
CAJ	13 10 12 16-51

Scoring-Okkodo, Clavius Fareway 15, Kurt Carter 15; CAJ, Jared Johnson 12, Eric Ellison 10.

Pool B	
Nile C. Kinnick, Japan	3-0
Father Duenas Memorial, Guam	2-1
Faith Academy, Philippines	1-2
Southern, Guam	0-3

Tuesday's summaries	
Kinnick 50, Faith 47	
Kinnick	7 13 10 20-50
Faith	14 15 8 10-47

Scoring-Kinnick, Devin Lewis 21; Faith, Keio Lewis 18.

Father Duenas 42, Southern 40	
FD	15 9 9 9-42
Southern	6 14 10 10-40

Scoring-FD, Earvin Jose 12; Southern, Jan Flores 13, Lawrence Terlaje 10.

Pool C	
Simon Sanchez, Kadena, Okinawa	2-1
American School In Japan	2-1
Guam High	0-3

Tuesday's summaries	
Kadena 56, ASIJ 52	
ASIJ	15 13 12 12-52
Kadena	10 14 16 16-56

Scoring-Kadena, Taiyo Robertson 16, Kevin Paranal 13; ASIJ, Nick Wells 14, Patrick Ward 14, Seau Eddy 12.

Simon Sanchez 48, Guam 35	
SSHS	7 11 12 18-48
Guam High	4 9 10 12-35

Scoring-SSHS, Derrick Royster 18; Guam High, Lourenzy Cosey 9.

Pool D	
Seoul American	3-0
Zama American, Japan	2-1
St. Mary's International, Japan	1-2
John F. Kennedy, Guam	0-3

Tuesday's summaries	
Seoul 62, St. Mary's 35	
Seoul	15 17 16 14-62
St. Mary's	12 11 7 5-35

Scoring-Seoul, Willie Brown 16, Johnnie Hickson 14; St. Mary's, Amrit Warriach 9.

Zama 63, JFK 26	
JFK	5 7 8 6-26
Zama	19 21 14 9-63

Scoring-Zama, Reggie Pitts 12; JFK, Justin Garcia 9.

Single-elimination playoffs

Wednesday's games

Game 1-Yokota vs. JFK, 9 a.m.

Game 2-Father Duenas vs. ASIJ, 10:30 a.m.

Game 3-Simon Sanchez vs. Southern, noon

Game 4-Zama vs. Okkodo, 1:30 p.m.

Game 5-Kinnick vs. Guam, 3 p.m.

Game 6-Kubasaki vs. St. Mary's, 4:30 p.m.

Game 7-Seoul vs. CAJ, 6 p.m.

Game 8-Kadena vs. Faith, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday's games

Game 9-G1 loser vs. G2 loser, 9 a.m.

Game 10-G3 loser vs. G4 loser, 10:30 a.m.

Game 11-G5 loser vs. G6 loser, 9 a.m.

Game 12-G7 loser vs. G8 loser, 10:30 a.m.

Game 13-G1 winner vs. G2 winner, noon

Game 14-G5 winner vs. G6 winner, noon

Game 15-G3 winner vs. G4 winner, 1:30 p.m.

Game 16-G7 winner vs. G8 winner, 1:30 p.m.

Game 17-G9 winner vs. G13 loser, 3 p.m.

Game 18-G10 winner vs. G15 loser, 4:30 p.m.

Game 19-G11 winner vs. G14 loser, 3 p.m.

Game 20-G12 winner vs. G16 loser, 4:30 p.m.

Girls Class AA

At Yano Fitness & Sports Center, Camp Zama, and Ranger Fitness & Sports Center, Naval Air Facility Atsugi, Japan
Final pool-play standings
(listed in order of playoff seeding)

Pool A	
Faith Academy, Philippines	3-0
John F. Kennedy, Guam	2-1
American School In Japan	1-2
Southern, Guam	0-3

Tuesday's summaries	
ASIJ 46, Southern 31	
ASIJ	12 6 15 13-46
Southern	10 2 6 13-31

Scoring-ASIJ, Gwen Thornton 16; Southern, Aubrey Salas 7.

John F. Kennedy 46, Southern 16	
JFK	10 13 19 4-46
Southern	4 6 3 3-16

Faith Academy 59, John F. Kennedy 27

Scoring-Faith, Janel Long 21, Tashia Hardeman 12; JFK, Gertrude Bilron 12.

Rebounding-Faith, Janel Long 13, Tashia Hardeman 6.

Pool B	
Notre Dame, Guam	3-0
Zama American, Japan	2-1
Kubasaki, Okinawa	1-2
Simon Sanchez, Guam	0-3

Tuesday's summaries	
Notre Dame 45, Simon Sanchez 23	
ND	18 8 11 8-45
SSHS	6 2 2 13-23

Scoring-NF, Toni

SPORTS



Far East tournament
pool play concludes,
Page 31

Second guessing

First half over, teams begin push for NBA title

By BRIAN MAHONEY
The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Their triumphant reunion complete, Shaquille O'Neal revealed that Kobe Bryant let him keep the All-Star MVP trophy they shared.

Bryant doesn't need it. He's got his eyes on a much bigger prize.

His Los Angeles Lakers bring the best record in the league into the second half of the season, giving Bryant a realistic chance to finally win a championship without O'Neal.

"We hit the ground off and running," Bryant said after leading the West to a 146-119 victory over the East on Sunday. "It was a fun weekend. As soon as I leave this podium, it is time to get back down to business. Looking forward to it."

O'Neal headed off to a more uncertain future. His Phoenix Suns fired coach Terry Porter on Monday, and were expected to remain busy dismantling their team before Thursday's trade deadline.

Amare Stoudemire, O'Neal's All-Star teammate, is the most prominent name atop the rumor mill. But as last year proved, it's not necessarily the biggest stars that make the biggest difference.

The final piece to a championship puzzle began to take shape during the All-Star break, when Boston's Big Three used its trip to New Orleans to put a full-court press on P.J. Brown.

Brown eventually agreed to join Kevin Garnett, Paul Pierce and Ray Allen in Boston, and became a key reserve on the team that won the Celtics' 17th NBA championship.

Plenty of eyes will be on Boston to see if the Celtics can make a similar upgrade this season.

"I see Boston maybe going to get somebody before it's all said and done and helping their bench out," Cleveland All-Star LeBron James said.

The Celtics could be motivated to make a move after failing a pair of high-profile tests before the break in home losses to the Lakers and San Antonio Spurs.

They've been linked to Stephon Marbury, the banished Knicks guard who is trying to secure his escape from New York. Or, they could decide to stick with what they have — which isn't bad.

SEE NBA ON PAGE 30



LUCY NICHOLSON, POOL/AP

West All-Star Kobe Bryant and his Los Angeles Lakers bring the best record in the league into the second half of the season. Bryant is looking for his first NBA title since Shaquille O'Neal was traded.



Photos by The Associated Press

Left: If East All-Star LeBron James (23) and his Cleveland Cavaliers consider a trade to boost their play-off hopes, West All-Star Amare Stoudemire of the Phoenix Suns is rumored to be up for grabs. Center: The defending champion Boston Celtics could make an upgrade. Right: The Houston Rockets haven't been able to keep Yao Ming (11), Ron Artest and Tracy McGrady healthy enough to gain any momentum.



A-Rod says he took over-the-counter banned substance

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No. 4 Pitt knocks off No. 1 UConn

Page 29



Saints release their all-time leading rusher McAllister

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